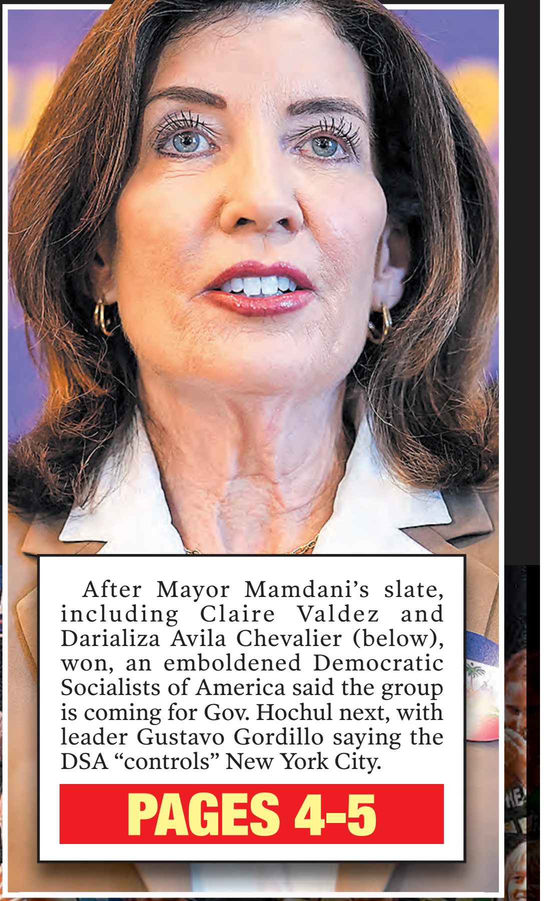
NEW YORK POST

Page Six®

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2026 / Early showers, 82° / Weather: P. 53 ★★ LATE CITY FINAL nypost.com $2.00

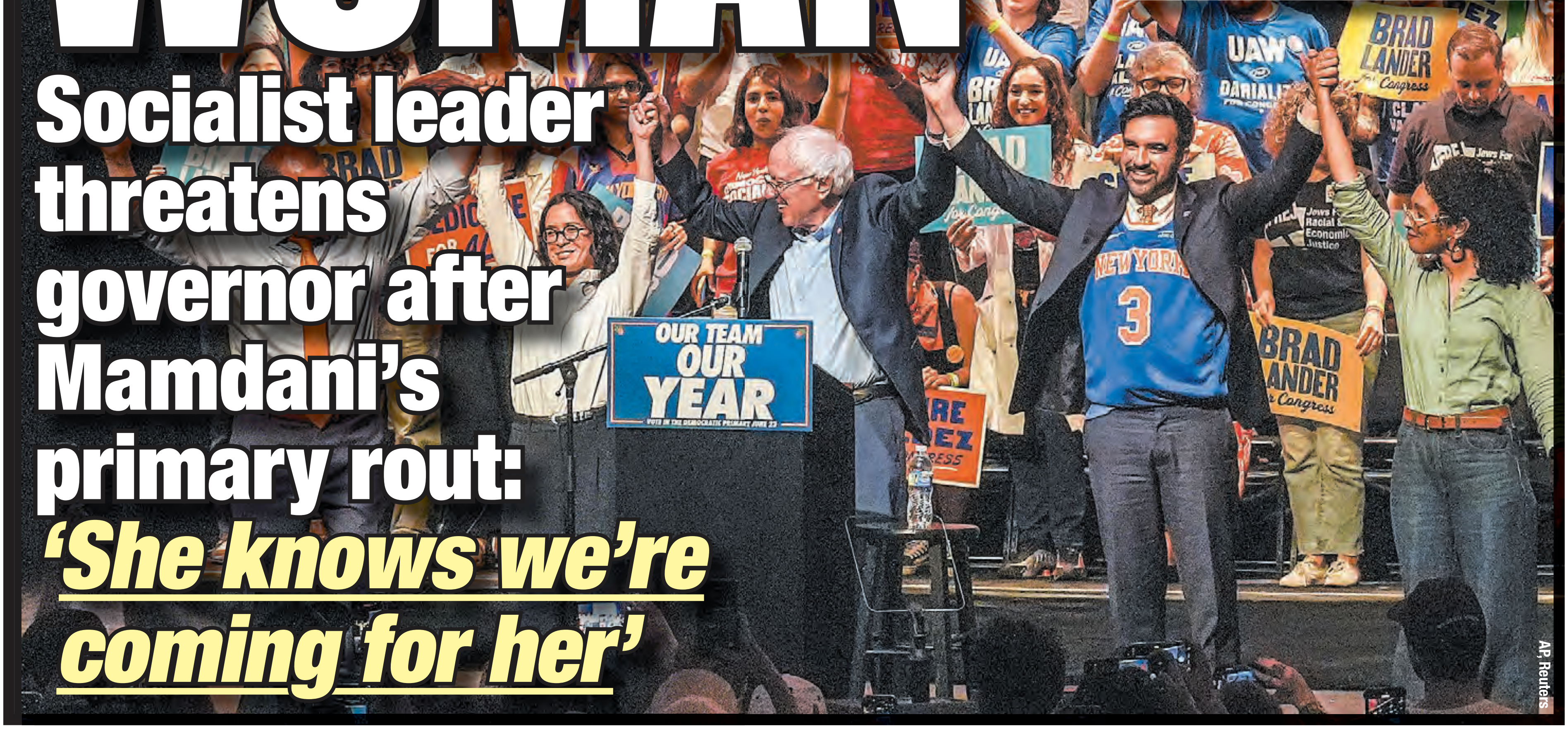
KAT'S A MARX-ED WOMAN



After Mayor Mamdani's slate, including Claire Valdez and Darializa Avila Chevalier (below), won, an emboldened Democratic Socialists of America said the group is coming for Gov. Hochul next, with leader Gustavo Gordillo saying the DSA "controls" New York City.

PAGES 4-5

Socialist leader threatens governor after Mamdani's primary rout: *'She knows we're coming for her'*


OUR TEAM
OUR
YEAR
VOTE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY JUNE 23
BRAD LANDER for Congress
UAW
NEW YORK
3
Jews For Racial & Economic Justice

AP, Reuters

DouglasElliman

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O 469.273.1431 | M 972.979.0978
tiffany.touchstone@elliman.com

Brandon Hawkins
REALTOR®
O 469.273.1431 | M 214.206.7778
brandon.hawkins@elliman.com

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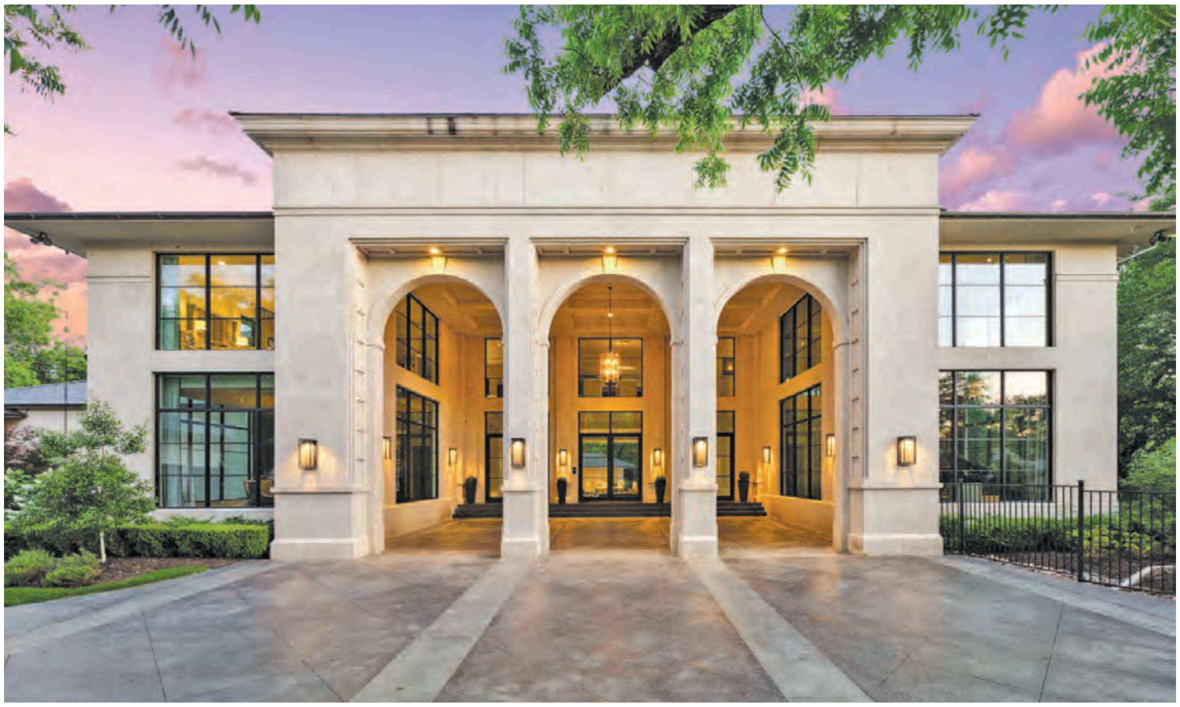
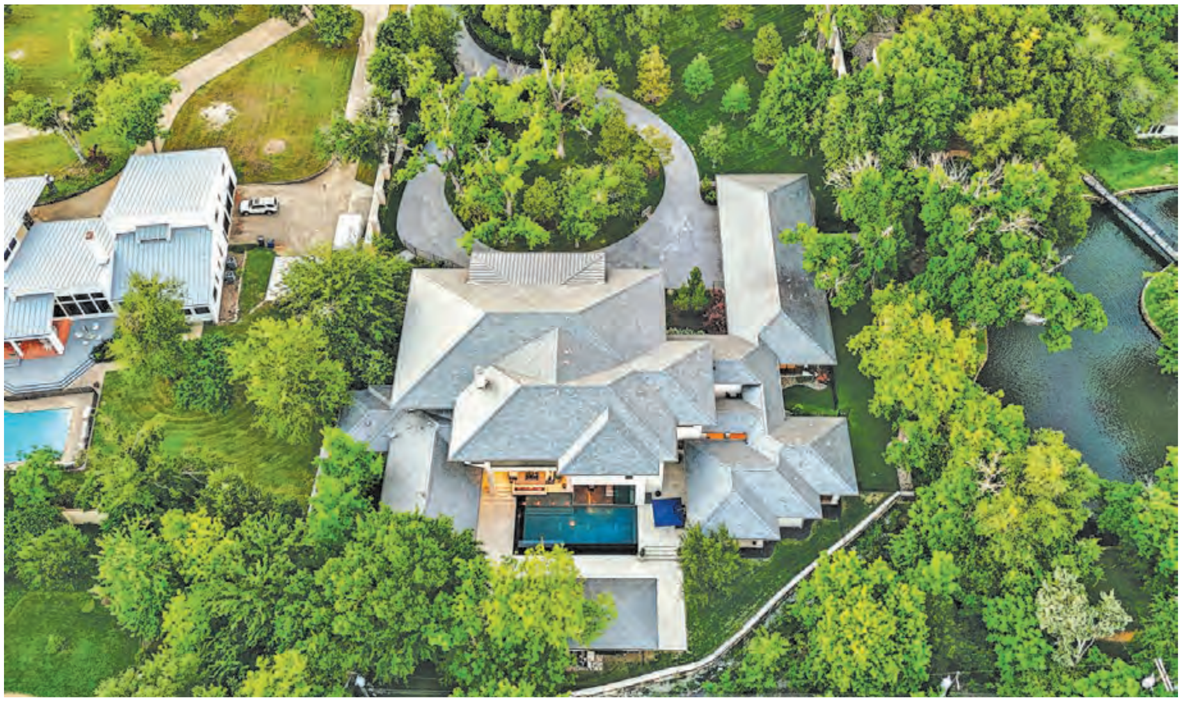
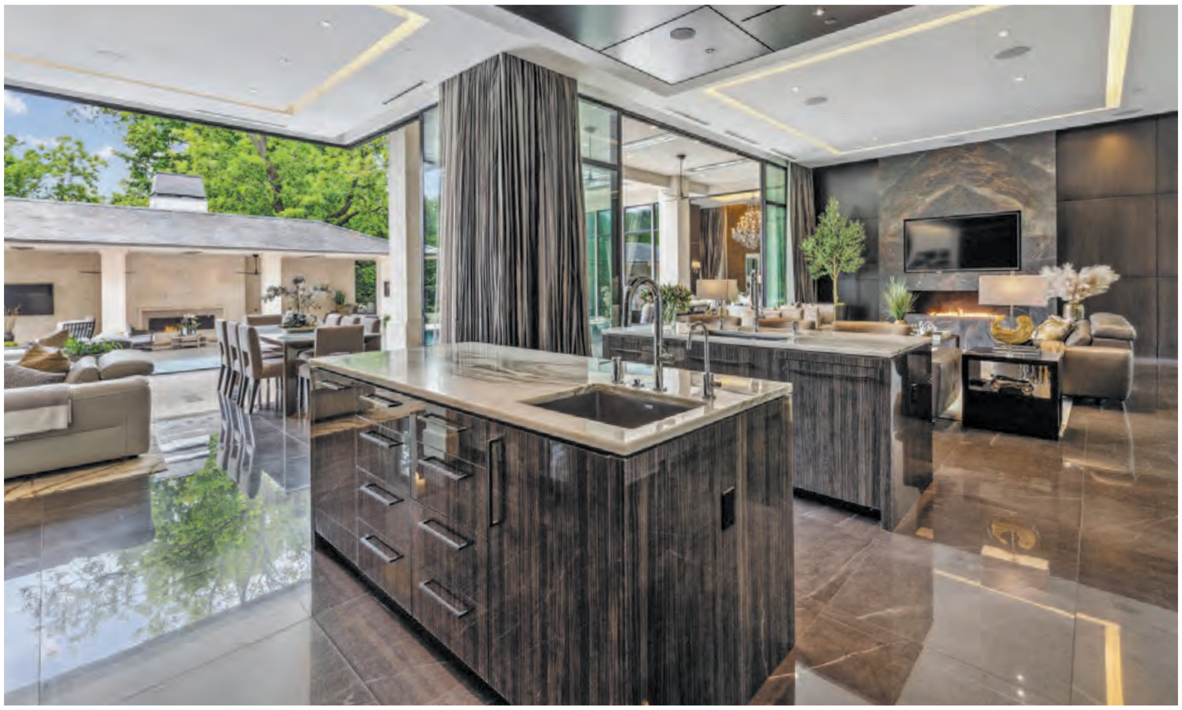


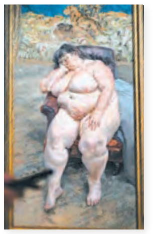




‘Freud’ nude for $39M!

Talk about a Freudian slip.

A painting by the grandson of the famed psychologist Sigmund Freud featuring a London clerk in the buff sold for a mind-bending $39 million at auction Wednesday — and the curvaceous model couldn’t be happier.



“Mona Lisa wasn’t alive when she became famous — but I am,” Sue Tilley, 69, told The Wall Street Journal after “Sleeping by the Lion Carpet” by Lucian Freud sold at Sotheby’s London.

The portrait, painted between 1995 and 1996, depicts a then 35-year-old Tilley sleeping in a chair with nothing left to the imagination — one of four portraits Freud painted of her.

Tilley was working as a supervisor at an employment office and part-timing as a London nightclub clerk when Freud, then 70, asked her to join his roster of friends and paramours that sat for his portraits.

Freud, who died in 2011, paid her around $85 in today’s money — to pose.

Considered to be the magnum opus of the series, the work has previously fetched $129 million, according to the Journal. *Jared Downing*

Air Canada pilot scare

Horrified Air Canada passengers started praying as its pilot suffered an apparent seizure and the plane swerved violently before the flight made an emergency landing at Boston Logan airport

Passenger Rodney McDonald told ABC News it appeared the pilot on the flight, operated by Air Canada’s regional partner PAL Airlines, had a seizure after the plane took off Wednesday afternoon from Newark, NJ.

“The flight started swerving violently,” he said.

The pilot was restrained and the plane landed safely.
Chris Bradford

Beauty queen ‘skips out on nups bill’

CHECK HER OUT: BRIDE ‘OWES 40K’

By PETER SENZAMICI

This is going to make it tough to win Miss Congeniality.

A glamorous beauty pageant queen who wore nearly $1,000 Jimmy Choo heels on her big day allegedly stiffed Midtown Manhattan’s luxury St. Regis Hotel out of the final $40,000 chunk of her lavish wedding bill, according to a lawsuit filed by the iconic venue.

Self-described Instagram influencer Kaitlyn Rose Kennedy-Melanson, a certified behavior analyst recently crowned as Miss New York Elite, has not paid her bill in full from her September 2025 nuptials, which included such amenities as a penthouse suite and rooftop dinner with sweeping views of the Big Apple, the suit contends.

The food alone at the swanky hotel along Fifth Avenue was $100,000, according to the suit.

‘Repeated demands’

Kennedy-Melanson wedded Greg Melanson, who is the founder of a Big Apple-based investment sales brokerage firm that started in 2024 and focuses on middle-market commercial real estate transactions, according to his LinkedIn. He is not named in the lawsuit.

Kennedy-Melanson, who boasts over 111,000 followers on her Instagram page, has made over a dozen posts of her swanky wedding photos — including posing for a classic dip-kiss outside of the historic St. Patrick’s Cathedral as six separate shutterbugs snapped away.

Kennedy-Melanson, the 2015 Miss Teen Massachusetts whose social media is rife with glam shots from her wedding, held her ceremony at the historic St. Patrick’s Cathedral, with dinner, dancing and the rest at the premiere venue, which boasts about its timeless elegance and five-star accommodations.

Even after “repeated demands for payment,” the hotel claims the Boston area-born Kennedy-Melanson has not paid the final $37,000 — which comes to over $40,000 with interest — despite already handing over $106,000 for the unforgettable evening, according to court papers filed in Manhattan Supreme Court this week.

Reached by The Post, Kennedy-Melanson called the hotel’s claims “bulls--t” before saying she couldn’t comment without speaking to her attorney first. She then added that she hadn’t been served with the suit yet as she and her husband “no longer live” at the address listed in court papers, “so that’s good.”

She followed up in a message on Instagram saying she had “no comment at this time.”

She was also sued in 2022 over $3,1000 in unpaid rent for an East Harlem apartment, settling the matter two weeks later.

Miss New York

SASH POOR: Kaitlyn Rose Kennedy-Melanson flaunted her lavish nups (top left) at St. Regis Hotel (bottom left) on social media but allegedly still owes $40K.

Instagram/kaitlynkennedyofficial

MELANIE PHILLIPS

Plot to end America

Haley Brown / NY Post

WELCOME to Mamdanistan.

On Tuesday night, America's most important city became a beachhead for the black-red alliance. This is the combination of Islamism and ultra-leftism, embodied by New York's mayor, Zohran Mamdani, that has the whole of America in its sights.

Three Mamdani-backed extremists defeated establishment candidates in New York's Democratic House primary.

Two of them, Claire Valdez and Darializa Avila Chevalier, are affiliated to the ultra-left, anti-American Democratic Socialists of America. If elections to New York's legislature are included, seven out of eight DSA-affiliated candidates were victorious.

In addition, Rep. Dan Goldman was beaten in the city's 10th Congressional District by fellow Jew Brad Lander, a slavish Mamdani ally who has groveled to Islamists while demonizing Israel.

On social media, Chevalier has boasted of having "wiped my hand on the American flag."

Chevalier, a convert to Islam, has called for the abolition of police, prisons and the country's borders. She also co-founded Columbia University Apartheid Divest, a Muslim Brotherhood front group whose goals are the "full eradication of Western civilization" and the cultivation of "unrest and violence in America."

Terrorist support

All three candidates made ending American support for Israel a centerpiece of their campaigns. All three used the "genocide" libel against the Jewish state. Chevalier has doubled down on the support she voiced for Hamas the day after the terrorist group led the Oct. 7 attack of Israel.

For his part, Mamdani referred last week to the pro-Israel lobby group AIPAC and its supporters as "monsters," channeling the key antisemitic conspiracy theory that accuses the Jews of controlling America in the pursuit of diabolical goals.

The ultra-conservative Islamists and the ultra-progressive leftists are united in two main things that drive them: their desire to end America and the west, and their deranged loathing of Israel and the Jewish people. This loathing isn't just the glue binding them together. It's the Islamists' key weapon against America itself. The "Jewish question" is now turning into the driver of Democratic Party politics. Hatred of Israel is a Trojan horse for the agenda of Islamization, the process of conquering America and the west for Islam.

Useful liberal idiots

For decades, we've watched this story playing out in Britain, where it's rapidly reaching the point of no return. Although many British Muslims sign up to the country's core values, a huge number demand instead that Britain adapts to Islam.

Following the Muslim Brotherhood playbook, Islamic radicals have patiently infiltrated and subverted British politics and culture.

Although Muslims officially account for only about 6% of the population, they've achieved critical mass in certain cities and towns. This has enabled them to make disproportionate inroads through the democratic process for a specifically Islamic agenda.

Accordingly, Britain is now gazing aghast at the emergence of a rapidly growing sectarian Islamic caucus, with MPs and other public officials standing on a platform of "Gaza first" and with the issues of Israel and Zionism now absurdly driving British politics.

And close behind that is the demand that core western values, such as freedom of speech, must give way to the demands of Islam.

A similar process is under way in America. New York's Muslims are now equal in number to the city's Jews. Red-black extremists are now threatening establishment candidates in Colorado, Michigan and Wisconsin, while another radical leftist is poised to become mayor of Washington, DC. This process will metastasize even further very fast. Galvanized by the Oct. 7 attacks and the way western elites subsequently turned against Israel, the Islamists believe they're on the cusp of victory over America and its allies. While their motivation has gone through the roof, their useful idiots in the West's liberal establishment are refusing to see what's staring them in the face. Instead, they're obsessively sticking pins into effigies of Donald Trump, while acting as an echo chamber for the Islamists' lies painting Israel as a demonic force in the world.

It can happen here

Although New York's voters may nod along to these lies, most of them hardly rank Israel as of greater concern than things like the cost of living.

But Israel stands proxy for something else: a state that the public believe is grinding the faces of the poor and disadvantaged. Just like them. So a vote for those who hate "oppressive" Israel appears to them as a vote for the "oppressed" everywhere.

The Democrats imagine that they're using the Islamists to promote left-wing policies. The truth is that the Islamists are using the Democratic party to turn the US into Ameristan. People don't take this seriously because they can't believe it could ever happen to mighty America. Look at Britain and believe it. This is how the western frog is being boiled slowly in the pot.

Melanie Phillips is the author of "Fighting the Hate: A Handbook for Jews Under Siege" (Wicked Son).

KATHY,

By CRAIG McCARTHY,
CARL CAMPANILE
and MATT TROUTMAN

Kath is going to face the reds' wrath.

Mayor Mamdani's socialist cronies vowed to target Gov. Hochul to push her on their "tax the rich" crusade — as the comrades boasted they "control" the Big Apple.

Democratic Socialists of America leader Gustavo Gordillo warned Hohcul that the emboldened far-left group will target her next after their candidates upset establishment Democrats in several key races in Tuesday's party primaries. "She knows we're coming for her," Gordillo told The New York Times.

The warning came after Mamdani-endorsed DSA congressional candidates Darializa Avila Chevalier and Claire Valdez, along with avowed progressive Brad Lander, swept their Democratic primary races Tuesday.

The sweep in those three diverse congressional districts covering parts of Manhattan, Brooklyn and The Bronx prompted a jubilant Osman Chaudhary, co-chair of the New York City DSA Electoral Working Group, to claim a socialist mandate.

Chaudhary rattled off a lengthy list of Big Apple neighborhoods, including the "People's Republic of Ridgewood" and the "People's Republic of Astoria" — both located along the city's so-called "Commie Corridor" — under the DSA's sway.

Claim of a mandate

"We have a democratic socialist mandate in New York City," he said on a DSA call Wednesday.

"Don't even try it. We control these areas, we won by massive margins," he also told those considering challenging the DSA politicians, according to a clip shared on social media by Stu Smith, an investigative analyst at the conservative Manhattan Institute think tank.

The wins also signaled both Mamdani's power as a political kingmaker and the growing influence of the far-left faction within the Democratic Party.

Hochul, a moderate, last year endorsed Mamdani in hopes of harnessing the far-left fervor that swept him to victory in New York City's mayoral race. She quickly moved to placate the socialist phenom by supporting his push for universal childcare and doling out billions of dollars to help close a yawning city budget shortfall.

Hochul holds line

But she held firm against Mamdani's — and the DSA's — demand she support raising taxes on the rich during this year's state budget process. Still, critics have wondered if she'd fold to the pressure after she faces voters in the November elections and begins a new budget process.

The governor's opposition to the hike and continued embrace of Mamdani has led to several awkward moments in which crowds of fired-up DSA diehards have tauntingly chanted "tax the rich" at her.

"Taxing the rich is a top priority of our slate and one of the key policies they ran and won on," a DSA rep told The Post on Sunday.

Gordillo, who co-chairs the DSA's Big Apple chapter, told the Times if Hochul wins re-election this year she should expect a renewed push — and added pressure from the faction's adherents in Washington, DC.

"I think we have to show New York what it means to have three democratic socialists in the congressional delegation," Gordillo said, according to the Times.

All but two of Hochul's own endorsements in the primary ended up falling to DSA-backed candidates — a sign her stature as the state's Democratic Party leader didn't hold a candle to Mamdani's own growing influence.

"Everyone is furious," one Democratic insider said about establishment party members. "She created part of this problem, and it's going to bite her in the ass."

Mamdani's endorsements targeting establishment Dems stoked fears before the primary that he was fueling an intraparty civil war between far-left DSA acolytes and moderates such as Hochul. After the primary, insiders said the whole state Democratic Party could be facing a leftist takeover.

"The lesson tonight is that it's Zohran Mamdani's party and we are just voting in it," Evan Roth

WE'RE *COMMIEING*

Socialists set their sights on Hochul next

AP Photo/Jeffrey T. Barnes; Cindy Schultz

WRATH FOR KATH: New York City Democratic Socialists of America leader Gustavo Gordillo (above) is warning Gov. Hochul to get on board with the far-left agenda or face the movement's wrath.

Smith, a campaign consultant, said on Tuesday evening.

"We should not just expect more congressional challenges, but more Assembly and Senate and council challenges. We should expect the DSA to remake the Democratic Party in New York."

Growing wave

Beyond pressing Hochul on taxing the rich, many lefty Dems also set their sights on toppling House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries — a moderate who frequently frustrates radicals with his play-it-safe political style.

"Jeffries is not invincible. He has a target on his back in 2028," said Corbin Trent, a former staffer for firebrand Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez who worked on her campaign that toppled establishment Dem fixture Rep. Joe Crowley in 2018.

City Councilman Chi Ossé geared up to challenge Jeffries during the primary but dropped his bid after pushback from Mamdani and narrowly lost a bid to gain the DSA's backing.

But after Tuesday's primaries, DSA true believers appeared to have second thoughts on not challenging Jeffries. "Chi would have won," Gordillo posted on X on Tuesday night.

State Republicans blasted the Democrats' seeming socialist takeover. "This is a group that has hosted rallies for Hamas, wants boys competing in girls' sports and views the free market and nuclear family as things to be dismantled," said state Republican Party Chairman Ed Cox.

Mamdani, when asked Wednesday about taxing the rich, said his priorities haven't changed. He did, however, offer praise for Hochul's past help.

"I've also been honest with New Yorkers about what I believe is necessary to deliver on that affordability, and I'm proud to be standing here speaking about 2-K [childcare], which is only possible because of the partnership we have with Gov. Hochul," he said.

Hochul's re-election campaign officials declined to comment on DSA leaders warning they're coming for her.

Additional reporting by Matthew Fischetti, Vaughn Golden and Patrick Reilly

Gov upstate fumble

Gov. Hochul got a tepid response from a crowd at this week's ribbon-cutting for the Buffalo Bills' new stadium, trying and failing to start a chant in support of the team as she took the podium.

The Buffalo native, clad in a Bills hat and a blue-and-white blazer and shirt combo, enthusiastically took the stage at the newly completed Highmark Stadium on Tuesday, kicking off her remarks with a fervent, "All right, let's get this party started. Let's go!" to a response of what could charitably be called a trickle of applause.

Undeterred, the fired-up governor belted out an earnest chant of "Buffalo, let's go!" — attempting to get the audience to join in the call-and-response, and even pointing to either side of the crowd to give them their cue.

She was met with such deafening silence she aborted the effort and called them out for their lethargy.

"All right, seriously? You want to win a championship season with that kind of enthusiasm?"

Chris Nesi

Panelist quits amid Zo rent bd. shock

Freeze on two year leases

William Miller

PRINCIPLED: Rent Guidelines Board member Christina Smyth quit on Thursday rather than be party to what she called a preordained, and wrong, decision to freeze rents while "ignoring" landlords' skyrocketing costs.

By HANNAH FIERICK
and DAVID PROPPER

A pro-landlord member of the city's Rent Guidelines Board resigned in protest Thursday just hours before her colleagues approved a rent freeze on one- and two-year leases for 1 million Big Apple apartments — arguing the panel was stacked to make Mayor Mamdani's campaign pledge a reality.

Christina Smyth — a representative for property owners appointed by Mamdani predecessor Eric Adams — released a scathing resignation letter, claiming the nine-member board "stopped being a fact-finding body" and was rebuilt "to deliver a rent freeze" no matter what.

"Everything else has been theater," Smyth wrote, arguing her now-former colleagues were ignoring evidence as they determined the fate of 1 million rent-stabilized homes across the five boroughs.

"The hearings, the reports, the public comment, the data. None of it was ever going to change the result," she wrote.

'Crossing a line'

The incredible public rebuke came just hours before the RGB in a 7-1 vote passed a rent freeze on one- and two-year leases for stabilized units — delivering one of Mamdani's key campaign promises that helped fuel the far-left pol's astronomical rise to power.

In a Thursday morning social media post, Mamdani's comrades in the city's Democratic Socialists of America chapter were already cheering the anticipated rent freeze.

"Just days after our candidates sweep their elections, we're going to deliver a rent freeze for millions of New Yorkers!" the group posted on X.

But Smyth, a real estate attorney and law firm owner, accused the board of crossing a "legal line" by "knowingly disregarding its own evidence" showing landlords face spiking operating costs, during the lengthy process to decide whether to adjust rents.

"I asked the questions a board member is supposed to ask. I asked the staff to explain their methodology. I asked how the figures in the operating cost reports were reached. I asked why data showing rising costs and falling net income was not reflected in the board's direction to its members," she wrote.

"Those questions went unanswered. They were too inconvenient to be answered."

While denying Smyth's actions, Board Chair Chantella Mitchell said she was caught off guard by Smyth's abrupt departure.

"I want to take this opportunity to affirm the independence with which this year's board members have served, along with the rigor and integrity demonstrated by the RGB staff in preparing and presenting data," Mitchell said in a statement. "I thank them all, including Christina, for their service."

Mamdani, asked about Smyth's letter, also repeated the claim that the board is independent.

'We trust them'

"This Rent Guidelines Board is an independent board that has been conducting a process over the last many months," he told News 12, "that includes both fact finding as well as testimonies, and I look forward to the outcome and the decision they will make … We trust them to make the decision they will make."

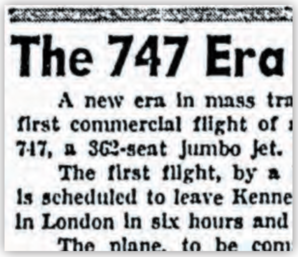
Smyth, one of two landlord reps on the board, was among three Adams appointees on the panel. Mamdani appointed the other six after taking office this year.

Her resignation had no effect on the vote, as only five members are required to be present, according to the board's rules. The only member to vote no on the freeze was Adams appointee Arpit Gupta.

A rent freeze was last passed in 2020, for one year, under then-Mayor Bill de Blasio. But the two-year freeze is reportedly the first in the board's history.

"This is a historic victory for New York City tenants. After reviewing the data and hearing from New Yorkers across the city, the independent RGB has delivered a freeze on one-year leases, and the first-ever freeze on two-year leases in our city's history," Mamdani said in a statement after the win.

James Whelan, the president of the Real Estate Board of New York, said "the Rent Guidelines Board ignored its own data and made a terrible decision tonight."



The 747 Era

A new era in mass tra
first commercial flight of
747, a 362-seat jumbo jet.
The first flight, by a
is scheduled to leave Kenne
in London in six hours and
The plane, to be con

A jumbo aviation advance

The Post is counting down to America's 250th birthday with a look back at the nation's — and the paper's — history. Every day leading up to the big event on July 4, we're publishing notable covers and stories from our archives:

Jan. 21, 1970
The 747 takes flight

Happy
250th,
USA!

"A new era in mass transportation begins today," The Post reported as the first commercial flight of the Boeing 747 was due to take off that evening from JFK bound for London — though Pan Am ended up postponing it to the following day due to technical issues.

With its distinctive hump for a partial upper deck and double-aisle cabin with space for nearly 500 passengers, the 747 was a striking, crowning achievement in a golden era of American innovation.

Boeing built the last 747 in 2023, as airlines shifted to smaller, more efficient — and less elegant — planes.

Still, hundreds of 747s remain in use, mostly for cargo flights.

Air Force One has been a 747 since the first Bush administration, a tradition that continues with Qatar's recent gift of a 747 to President Trump. *Hailey Eber*

INSIDE TODAY

News Columns
Melanie Phillips 4-5
Isaac Schorr 15
Johnny Oleksinski 25
Lydia Moynihan 29
Gossip
Page Six 22-23
Post Opinion p. 33-35
Business p. 39-41
Fun & Games
Su Doku 38
Crossword 38
Horoscope 53
Classifieds p. 42
Sports p. 43-69
NY Post Action 43-47
Weather p. 53
TV Decider p. 70-71

LOTTERY

NEW YORK
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- Midday Win-4 Thu.: **2000**
- Midday Take-5 Thu.: **2, 16, 21, 34, 36**
- Evening Nos. Thu.: **723**
- Evening Win-4 Thu.: **6193**
- Evening Take-5 Thu.: **4, 25, 34, 37, 38**
- Pick-10 Thu.: **1, 10, 16, 20, 21, 22, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 39, 44, 45, 49, 60, 63, 64, 67, 78**
- Millionaire for Life Thu.: **3, 13, 14, 34, 45**; MB: **1**

NEW JERSEY
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- Pick-4 Thu.: **0299;** Fireball: **0**
- Cash-5 Xtra Thu.: **3, 11, 18, 21, 24**; Xtra: **2**
- Pick-6 Thu.: **8, 13, 19, 24, 31, 34**; DP: **4, 20, 22, 23, 28, 34**

CONNECTICUT
- Play-3 Thu.: **001;** Wild: **6**
- Play-4 Thu.: **6546;** Wild: **6**
- Cash-5 Thu.: **2, 5, 17, 21, 32**

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News Tips .... (212) 930-8500
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76

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Qns. rabbi slay a hate crime: kin

Relatives of a 75-year-old kosher bakery owner found shot dead near a Queens park lake last month said they suspected the "visibly Jewish" man was targeted in a hate crime — as investigators and kin bumped the award for any leads on the slaying to $20,000.

Albert Itzkowitz — who also served as a rabbi at a nursing home — was mysteriously found shot in the neck and back along the shoreline of Kissena Lake around 5 p.m. May 18, and the city medical examiner's office has since ruled the case a homicide.

With no established motive or information on a suspect more than a month later, Itzkowitz's loved ones are left wondering if the killer was motivated by antisemitic hate.

"Daddy was visibly Jewish," Itzkowitz's daughter, Leah Livshitz, told reporters gathered at the same park Thursday. "He was targeted in broad daylight."

Livshitz described the park as "a quiet place" her dad "regularly visited during his lunch break."

"He was not involved in a dispute," she said. "He was not committing any crime. His wallet was still on him. He was simply sitting there, an Orthodox Jewish man, dressed as he was."

The NYPD has not deemed the case a hate crime as of Thursday, although the department said it has not been ruled out and no motive has been established.

Kevin Sheehan

Dentures in food delivery

This sub has bite!

A New Jersey man nearly lost his lunch when he found the dentures of a delivery driver inside his Jersey Mike's cheesesteak, a new lawsuit revealed.

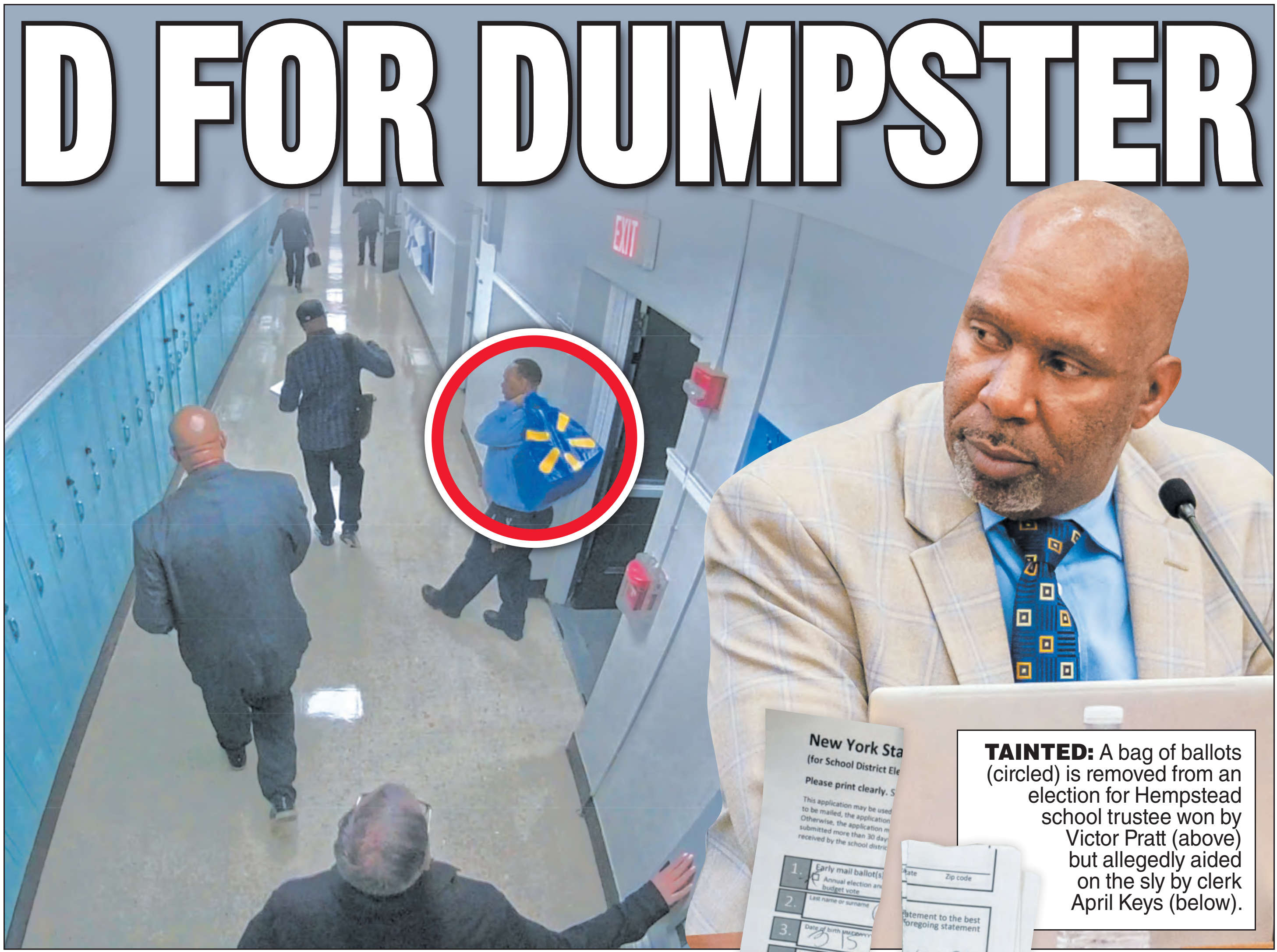
When Bayville resident Fernando Rodriguez ordered his delivery from Jersey Mike's in April 2025, everything seemed fine — until he noticed the teeth.

Grubhub delivery driver Theresa Gildea left her dentures "to become embedded" within the cheesesteak, court papers claim.

The driver said her dentures got in Rodriguez's order by mistake — when she was eating her own lunch and checking to make sure Rodriguez's order was correct due to "multiple complaints" over wrong orders.

Grubhub said she no longer works for them. *Peter Senzamici*

D FOR DUMPSTER



TAINTED: A bag of ballots (circled) is removed from an election for Hempstead school trustee won by Victor Pratt (above) but allegedly aided on the sly by clerk April Keys (below).

New York State Department of Education

'Tossed LI ballots to rig school election'

By BRANDON CRUZ

A Long Island school clerk overseeing education elections tore up ballots and threw them in a dumpster to rig the election for a local DJ, a newly revealed internal probe found.

Hempstead Union Free School District Clerk April Keys allegedly rigged the May 19 trustee election by smuggling official ballots out of her office and handing absentee ballots to incumbent candidate Victor Pratt so he could trash them, according to a 51-page petition filed by the district with the state Education Department.

Keys could now face criminal charges as the state Education Department announced Thursday it was overturning the election and ordering a new vote within 60 days. Pratt is a third-term trustee and former school-board president who moonlights as a local DJ under the stage name DJ Vic-Lover, according to his social media.

"The Board of Education Trustee election must be overturned because widespread irregularities affected the outcome of the election and were so pervasive that they vitiated the electoral process," the filing, from the Hempstead school district's attorneys, said.

The filing, which was submitted June 15 but emerged Thursday, appealed to the state Education Department Commissioner Betty Rosa to order a new election with a replacement clerk and oversight by the state Attorney General's Civil Rights Office. Rosa agreed to annul the results and appointed Neil Boyd, district superintendent for the Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES as temporary clerk.

The district launched an internal investigation after it discovered major irregularities in its election for the unpaid trustee seats. Pratt won by just 81 votes — boosted by a suspiciously large number of absentee and early-mail ballots that boosted him to the win even though he only came in third on machine voting, the probe found.

Pratt racked up 87% of absentee votes and 55% of early mail votes, compared with just 27% of in-person machine votes — while other trustee candidates received fewer than 100 absentee and early mail ballots combined, the probe found.

Placed on leave

Keys was placed on administrative leave three days after the election, and that same evening District Superintendent Gary Rush entered her office and discovered an out of place, oversized cafeteria-style garbage can with a tied bag stuffed inside, the petition said.

Rush was shocked to find stolen 2026 election ballots inside — and placed the clerk's office on lockdown while ordering the door's locks changed that week, the documents said. But when investigators returned four days later, the garbage can was gone, allegedly dumped by custodian Owen Peters, who hauled the bag to an outside dumpster that morning while the locksmith was changing the doors, the petition claimed.

Peters later led investigators to the bag, which was sitting in roughly a foot of standing water, according to the documents.

They found ripped-up cast ballots for both Pratt and his top challenger, Gwendolyn Jackson, shredded early mail ballot applications with voters' names, addresses and signatures still visible and unused ballots and tally sheets, the petition said. Keys and Pratt didn't respond to requests for comment Thursday. Nassau County District Attorney Anne Donnelly's office confirmed it is now investigating.

THE BATTLE FOR IRAN

SHIP HITS FAN ON

By STEVEN NELSON,
CAITLIN DOORNBOS,
RYAN KING and ALEX OLIVERIA

WASHINGTON — President Trump's peace process was cast into doubt Thursday as Iran attacked a cargo ship in the Strait of Hormuz — while insisting on its right to control shipping routes and ultimately charge new fees on the global oil choke point.

An Iranian drone damaged the bridge of a Singaporean ship as it sailed along the Oman coast, sources told The Post. There were no known casualties.

The route was agreed upon Tuesday by the US and Oman, angering Tehran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, which warned ships to abide by a different Iran-approved route or risk an "extremely dangerous" voyage.

"Violators" would be "dealt with," the IRGC threatened before attacking the ship.

Iran began broadcasting warnings about the route Thursday morning, with the IRGC's statement accompanied by a naval broadcast.

At least four other ships were halted and turned around by Iran Thursday, the Financial Times reported.

The attack was a significant setback for Trump's peace process and underscores core differences between the two sides — with Iran hoping to gain new powers over the waterway, which controls about a fifth of global oil exports.

Oil prices spiked on Thursday as the tensions flared — reversing most of a weeklong plunge that had brought hope for lower gas prices and easing inflation.

$40M work-around

Iran is also eyeing a scheme to make $40 billion a year off the Strait of Hormuz by charging for security and environmental-related services related to passage, The Wall Street Journal reported.

The memorandum of understanding Trump signed with Iran last week calls for safe and free passage of the key waterway for 60 days but allows for Iran to work with Oman on the "future administration" of the strait and "maritime services," which Iran has seen as a money-making opportunity.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Thursday called on the Islamic Republic to "abandon the fantasy" of imposing fees.

"Fees and tolls are the same thing to me. If you're paying someone to go there, I don't care if you call it a fee or a toll or a donation; it's a toll. That's how we're going to define it," Rubio told reporters in Bahrain.

"It's not even workable. Let's say a ship says, 'I'm not going to pay the fee.' It's not like a toll on the road. You don't get a ticket in the mail. You get shot at. You sink one ship, not one other ship is going to move."

GOPers reverse course

Hours before the attack on the cargo ship, Trump had notched a domestic political win as he worked to maintain unity among his Republican allies in Congress, many of whom believe he risks settling the war too early in Iran's favor, while others oppose the conflict.

Senate Republicans defeated a resolution barring him from further hostilities with Iran on Wednesday night — with the president arguing it weakened his negotiating position.

The Senate had narrowly approved a similar resolution Tuesday, infuriating Trump, who huddled with Senate Republicans over lunch on Wednesday and was "mad as a murder hornet," according to Sen. John Kennedy (R-La.).

At one point, Trump got into a shouting match with Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-La.) and lashed out at Sen. Dave McCormick (R-Pa.), who missed the vote because he was with the president at an event in Pennsylvania.

The White House later invited Cassidy to the Situation Room for a briefing with special envoy Steve Witkoff, with the Louisianan and Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) reversing their earlier votes.

"Wow! The Senate just changed its vote on Iran from 50-48 against, to 50-47 for. Rand Paul and Bill Cassidy changed," Trump cheered on Truth Social. "Thank you to [Majority] Leader John Thune, Lindsey Graham [R-SC], Bernie Moreno [R-Ohio], and all. This vote puts Iran on notice!"

Wednesday's reversal was a symbolic move and technically doesn't impact the prior resolution, though it does blunt its political damage.

Getty Images

US Iranians: Don't trust that gov't!

By JONATHAN HAROUNOFF

Gazelle Sharmahd

NOT A WORD: Gazelle Sharmahd (with her dad, Jimmy) and Great Neck Mayor Pedram Bral (below) are warning US leaders.

Iranian dissidents are warning the Trump administration to stay tough and be wary of the Islamic Republic's deception as it tries to end the war there.

Last week's 14-point memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the US and Iran ended fighting and set the stage for 60 days of broader talks aimed at dismantling the regime's nuclear program and reopening the Strait of Hormuz.

But members of the disapora say the US risks emboldening a regime that has repeatedly violated past commitments and has a long track record of repression and regional destabilization.

"This agreement hands Iran a victory it could never win on the battlefield, just as Hamas and Hezbollah have repeatedly used cease-fires, not as peace but as leverage to attack again," said Pedram Bral, Iranian-born Republican mayor of Great Neck.

Heard this all before

The fragile peace was tested Thursday as Iran attacked a Singaporean cargo ship in the Strait of Hormuz, which it has largely closed since the war, and threatened further action against "violators" who didn't obey its routes.

Several Iranian interviewees expressed concern that the state-to-state negotiations — which somewhat bafflingly did not include Israel — omitted the aspirations, plight and agency of ordinary Iranians.

Maryam Banihashemi, a women's rights advocate based in Switzerland who was born and lived in Iran for 34 years, said she found it "deeply disappointing that the Iranian people themselves remain absent from conversations about Iran."

"If policymakers had truly done their homework and understood who they were dealing with, they would not see any form of engagement with the Islamic Republic as a viable path to long-term stability, security or even economic interests, which appear to be a central driver behind this MOU and the negotiation process," she added.

Gazelle Sharmahd, a California-based advocate whose father, Jimmy Sharmahd, was kidnapped by the regime in 2020 and executed in 2024, went further. She argued the regime is an occupying force acting against the Iranian people.

"There is no deal between the United States and Iran," she said. "There is only a deal between the United States and the ayatollahs — an Arab Islamist occupation force that has spent nearly half a century waging war against its biggest enemy: the Iranian nation."

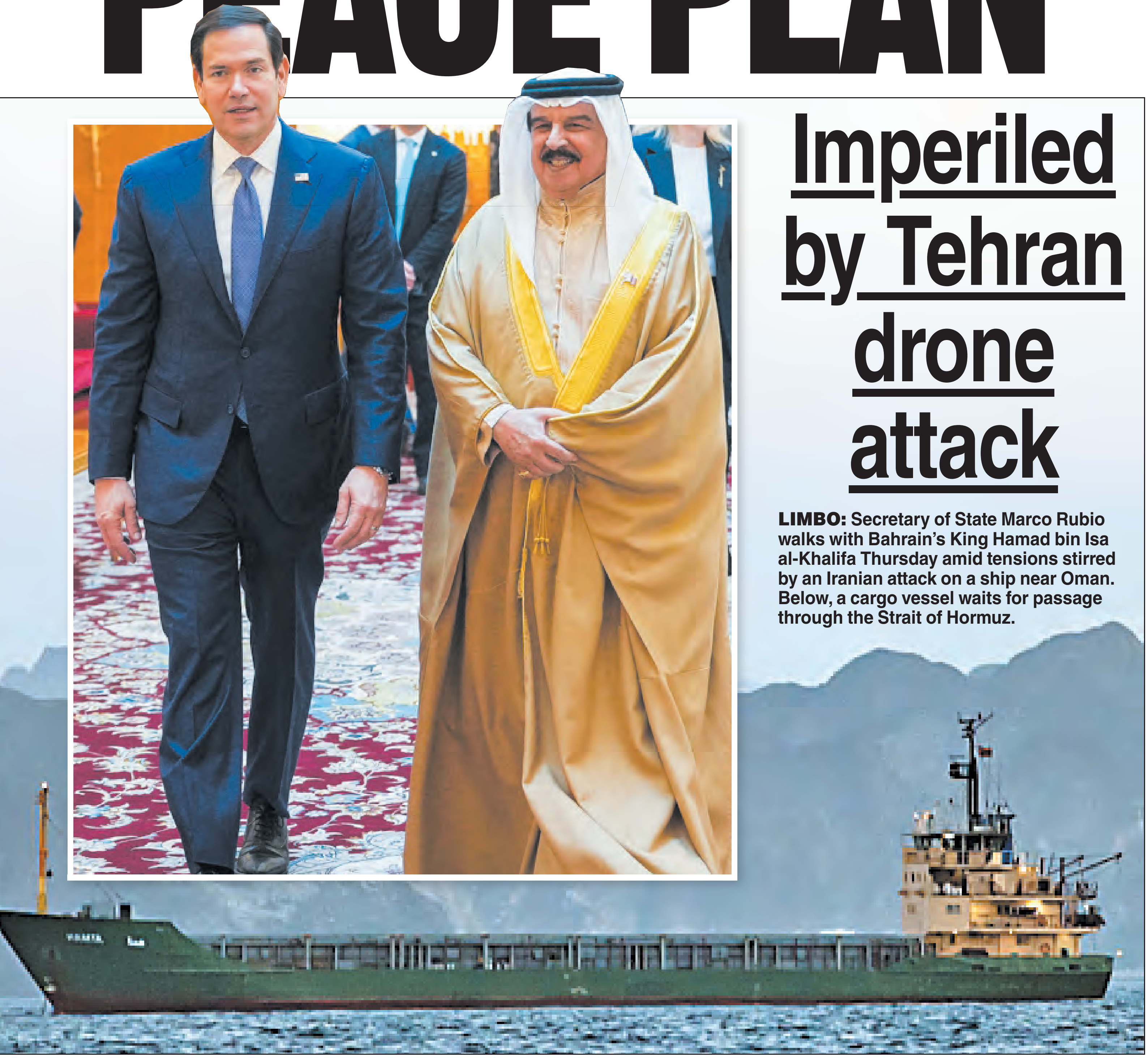
Sharmahd added: "Not a single Iranian is represented in these negotiations. Not a single Iranian is mentioned in the deal. This MOU represents the financing of an occupying force with the stolen assets of the nation it subjugates. Iranians are not subjects — they are sovereign and no one can sideline them to make deals with their killers."

However, not every Iranian voice was dismissive of diplomacy between the Islamic Republic and the United States.

Betty Emamian, a community activist based in the city, expressed "cautious hope" about the negotiations but reiterated human rights cannot be sacrificed.

PEACE PLAN

Imperiled by Tehran drone attack



LIMBO: Secretary of State Marco Rubio walks with Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa Thursday amid tensions stirred by an Iranian attack on a ship near Oman. Below, a cargo vessel waits for passage through the Strait of Hormuz.

'Won't get the billions'

The Trump administration is insisting that billions of dollars in frozen Iranian assets will never actually reach Tehran's hands, pushing back on criticism that the White House is preparing to bankroll one of America's most dangerous adversaries.

"None of this money is ever going to touch Iran," a senior US official told The Post.

Instead, officials say, the funds would function more like an escrow account, with payments sent directly to approved vendors supplying humanitarian goods rather than to the Iranian regime itself.

"There's no big handouts, there's no big tranches of cash," the person said.

Under the arrangement tied to ongoing US-Iran negotiations, Tehran can request purchases of items such as food, medicine and other humanitarian supplies, but would never directly receive the money.

That means payments will go directly to companies supplying agricultural products, medical equipment or other approved goods.

The humanitarian spending would come from a Qatar-held $6 billion fund released by former President Joe Biden as part of a September 2023 prisoner swap, officials have previously told The Post.

The US argues the arrangement gives Washington complete control over the pace and scope of any economic relief while ensuring Iran receives incentives to continue cooperating with nuclear inspections and other provisions being negotiated. *Caitlin Doornbos*

Open strait brings flood of cheap oil

A "mini tsunami" of oil is flooding the global market after the Strait of Hormuz opened and trapped tankers are finally freed, dropping prices to nearly prewar levels — but the relief might not last long.

August oil futures — contracts to buy at a coming date — dropped to about $70 per barrel Wednesday, the lowest level since the day before the US-Iran war began on Feb. 28, Reuters reported.

That's about the same price oil was last July, and only about $10 more than before the war exploded — a remarkable turnaround just a week after the US and Iran signed a memorandum of understanding to end the war.

The price drops are being driven by the millions of barrels of oil which have been stranded in the strait in the nearly four months since Iran closed it but are now being freed by the day and reentering the market — leading to a glut of supply and sinking prices.

But the low prices might not last once the oil glut begins to sell off, as tensions still float over the strait — a Singaporean ship was attacked by Iran on Thursday — keeping shippers wary of using the passage.

The number of tankers exiting the strait to offload remains higher than those entering to reload, according to Reuters. *Alex Oliveira*

2 WH immig wins

By RYAN KING and ALLY GOELZ

CLOSED: Some migrants can be turned away before they apply for asylum and others granted "temporary" protections can be deported back to places like Haiti and Syria, the court ruled.

Supremes limit asylum, 'temp' stays

James Keivom for NY Post

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court handed President Trump a pair of victories on key immigration cases Thursday, igniting a firestorm from Democrats who re-upped their threat to expand the court.

In back-to-back 6-3 rulings, the high court cleared the way for Trump to turn away migrants at the border before they apply for asylum, and strip temporary deportation protections from Haitians and Syrians.

All three of the high court's Democrat-appointed minority justices dissented. GOP-appointed Justice Samuel Alito penned the majority opinion in both cases.

Asylum caps OK'd

First came the asylum decision, where the Supreme Court ruled in favor of a policy known as "metering," which capped the number of people who could apply for asylum each day. It was used during the first Trump administration as well as the Obama administration.

Trump's team argued the policy was necessary to deal with a massive influx of migrants at the southern border, adding that people who were initially turned away could always come back and attempt to apply later.

Then there was the decision on temporary protective status (TPS), which has been in effect since 1990, and allows eligible migrants to seek work authorization for over a year and a half.

Over 1.3 million nationals across 17 countries received TPS protections as of March of last year, per the National Immigration Forum. Under statutory law, administrations can "designate" countries for migrants to get temporary protection.

The Trump administration moved to scrap TPS for the some 6,000 Syrians and 350,000 Haitians living in the US, but had been stymied by the lower courts.

Immigration advocacy groups cited procedural concerns and alleged that the move was made with racial animus, pointing to Trump's past comments about migrants eating dogs and cats, as well as his remarks about "s--thole countries" and claims immigrants are "poisoning the blood of America.

"None of the cited statements by either the President or the Secretary was overtly racial, and in substance all expressed policy views that could rest on race-neutral justifications," Alito wrote in that decision.

Dems fume

The White House celebrated the decisions as a green light for Trump's deportation and border-control agenda.

"This is a tremendous win for the Trump administration," Abigail Jackson, White House spokeswoman, said Thursday. "Today, the Supreme Court affirmed what President Trump has always maintained: temporary protected status is, by definition, temporary. It was never intended to be a pathway to permanent status or legal residency."

Democrats slammed the Supreme Court's six conservative justices and pushed to increase the court's size.

"The far-right MAGA majority on the Court cannot stand," Sen. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) raged on X. "We need to win back the House and the Senate and expand the Court."

Alito chides Sonia on 35-page slog

The Washington Post via Getty Images

WASHINGTON — Conservative Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito could barely contain himself Thursday after liberal Justice Sonia Sotomayor opted to read her full dissent in an immigration case from the bench, a rare rebuke of her colleagues.

Alito began by briefly summing up his majority opinion in Mullin v. Al Otro Lado, in which he held that the government has the right to turn back migrants stopped at the US border before giving them a chance to apply for asylum.

As Sotomayor (left) read her 35-page dissent, Alito — never known for his poker face — began rocking back and forth in his chair before leaning forward, propping his chin in his hands and staring at the ceiling while his colleague described the majority opinion as "egregiously wrong," according to The Hill.

After Sotomayor finished, a scowling Alito tersely said that had he known she would deliver her dissent in full, "there's much more I would have added" to his own comments.

The George W. Bush appointee urged those present to go through his full opinion to see how he responded to Sotomayor's dissent, then pointed out that the policy in question had been used by a Democratic and a Republican presidential administration before restraining himself from commenting further, saying: "I won't add anything more to that." *Ryan King*

Pols land against jet deal

Staten Island Rep. Nicole Malliotakis is joining with a Democratic committee chair's effort to block President Trump from selling $750 million worth of jet engines to Turkey.

The bipartisan group has called for President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government to be denied the US military equipment ahead of a NATO summit in early July. Typically, the chairs and ranking members of the House Foreign Affairs and Senate Foreign Relations Committees approve arms sales.

"As long as Turkey is under the leadership of Erdogan who aligns himself with Iran and Russia, harbors Hamas & remains the only NATO member to not sanction Russia, Turkey should NOT receive our best jets and military equipment," Malliotakis posted on X.

Queens Rep. Greg Meeks, the House Foreign Affairs Committee's top Democrat, issued a statement Wednesday, saying that the Trump administration was going to "once again bypass Congressional review for more than $700 million in defense articles to the Turkish military in yet another deeply troubling example of this administration's open contempt for Congress's oversight authority." *Josh Christenson*

An unhappy ending on LI

This place is finally being brought to heel.

A Long Island foot spa renting space from Suffolk County Clerk Vincent Puleo had its lease yanked by the elected official after it was revealed the shop was offering happy endings.

K&T Foot Spa in St. James is no longer in business after Puleo said he learned Wednesday from a Newsday report about the reputed randy activity, the business told The Post.

The alleged dirty deeds first came to light in online reviews of the location, with one woman saying her boyfriend was propositioned for some sexual shenanigans. *Brandon Cruz*

Dua and Callum are see worthy

Pop star Dua Lipa and her new hubby, actor Callum Turner, certainly look like they're enjoying their honeymoon in Italy and swimming in the Mediterranean after exchanging vows this month in Sicily.

GALI / BACKGRID

SOUTH'S *KIDDING* AROUND

Largest US 'child' rise

By ALEX OLIVEIRA

Children's laughter is becoming less common all across the country — after the number of kids in the US shrank by 1.8 million since 2020.

All except for one region, where school classes are still growing: the South.

The portion of Americans under 18 in the South grew by 1.1% between 2020 and 2025, amounting to 303,969 being born or moving to the region during that time.

It's a relatively small number of children, but significant compared with trends across the country — with the national child population dropping by 2.4% during the same time, US Census Bureau data from Axios found.

The drop was more dramatic in some regions.

Western states lost 1,015,068 kids — a 5.7% decline — while the Northeast's child population declined by 4.1%.

And the Midwest's child population dropped by 3.9%.

Population changes do not necessarily or exclusively mean more or fewer kids are being born — that plays a part, but changes also come from people moving to and from certain regions.

But the trends follow American migration patterns playing out since the COVID-19 pandemic, when communities across the South boomed while people relocated from northern and coastal states.

Moves south were so strong that the region has grown at double the national rate — with the South's population climbing by 6% between 2020 and 2025, while the US population overall grew by 3.1%, according to Axios.

Urban areas grow

The South's child population growth doesn't only mean more kids are arriving, but also that adults of child-rearing and family-building age are on the rise.

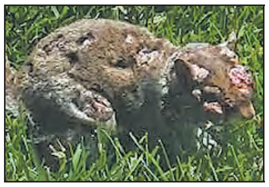
It remains unclear, however, exactly how many of the South's new children were the results of higher birth rates compared with how many were migration or relocations.

Most of the growth happened in larger cities, however, with metro counties seeing a 1.5% increase in child populations, amounting to 361,757 people from 2020 to 2025.

Smaller southern cities saw their child populations drop during that time by 0.7% — 18,280 people — while non-city counties' child populations dropped by 39,508, about a 2.2% decline.

aoliveira@nypost.com

'Undead' squirrels rise



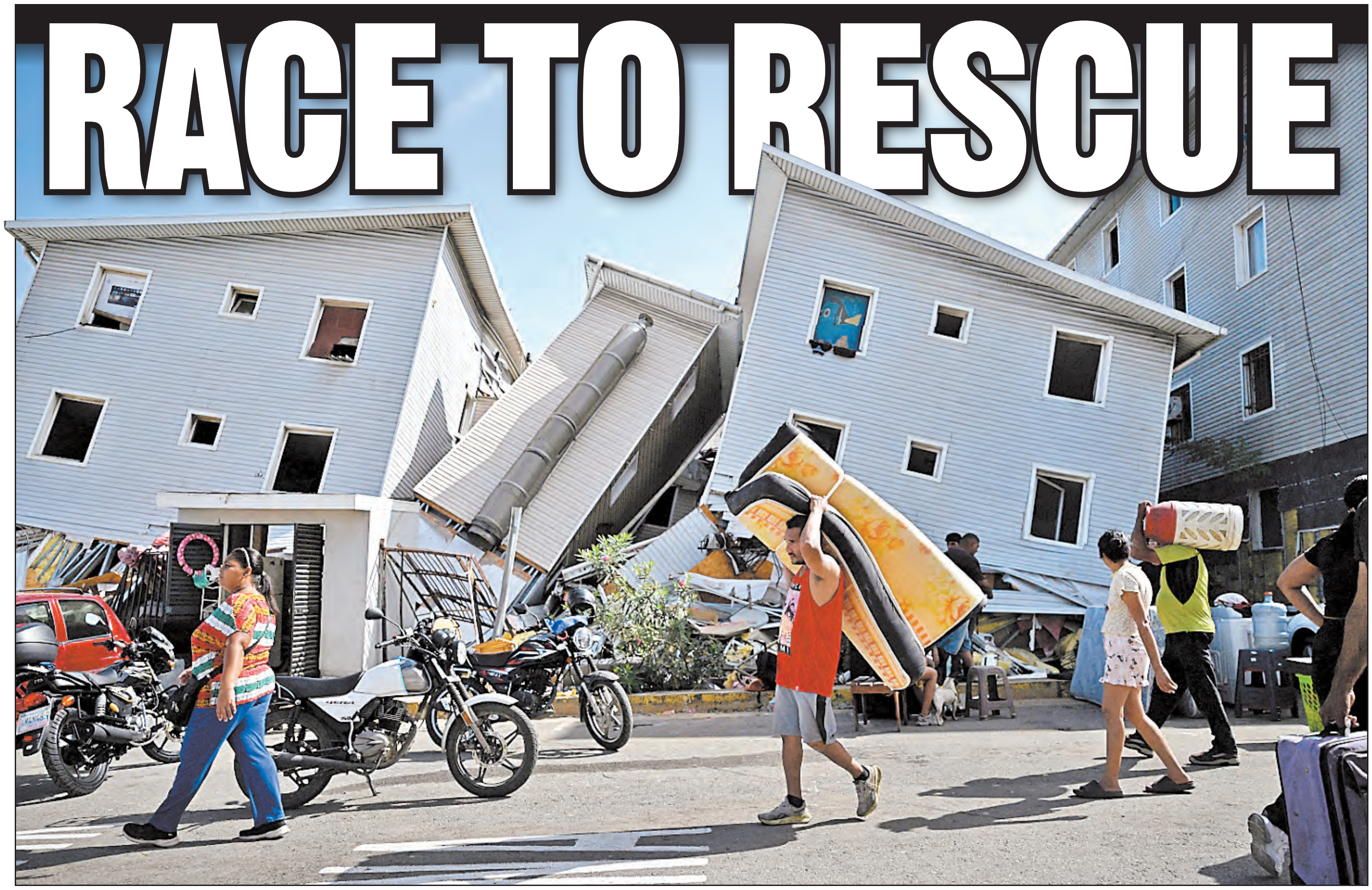
Zombie-esque squirrels covered in oozing, wart-like tumors have been invading backyards across the United States and the reason behind the deformities is likely caused by the species' version of herpes, according to experts.

The grotesque-looking gray squirrels have been photographed this summer in Florida, North Carolina and Michigan, the Daily Mail reported, citing a flurry of social media posts.

"What is going on with the squirrels lately?! This is the third one I've seen looking like this, and it's honestly freaking me out," one user posted on Facebook on June 9.

People should let the animals alone as the tumors often resolve within four to eight weeks, according to experts. *Zoe Hussain*

RACE TO RESCUE



Federico PARRA / AFP via Getty Images

SHOOK: Venezuelans in Catia La Mar — about 18 miles from Caracas — are reeling after a pair of earthquakes struck the nation Wednesday.

‘Big, fast’ US help after Venez. ’quake

By CHRIS NESI and ZOE HUSSAIN

A desperate search for survivors is underway after Venezuela was rocked by its strongest earthquakes in over a century, causing widespread destruction and fears of as many as 100,000 dead.

A magnitude-7.2 quake struck roughly 100 miles west of Caracas near San Felipe at 6 p.m. Wednesday, followed just 39 seconds later by an even bigger 7.5-magnitude temblor hitting the town of Yumare about 27 miles away, according to the US Geological Survey.

“High casualties and extensive damage are probable, and the disaster is likely widespread,” the USGS warned — estimating a 40% chance the death toll could climb to at least 10,000, and a 30% chance it could even top 100,000.

As of Thursday afternoon, at least 188 people had been confirmed killed and almost 1,520 others injured, the president of Venezuela’s National Assembly, Jorge Rodriguez, said. Another 200 people were trapped and at least 250 buildings damaged or destroyed, Rodriguez said.

Lending a hand

City by quake-ravaged city, locals are springing into action to aid the massive rescue effort, with search and rescue team members, civic organizations and even everyday civilian volunteers lending a hand in a race against time.

The US has also begun directing resources and personnel to the impoverished South American nation, with President Trump announcing on Truth Social Wednesday night that “We will be there for our new and great friends.”

Rodriguez thanked Trump and the US, saying “Venezuela will never forget the hand extended to our people in these hard hours.”

At a press conference from Bahrain Thursday, Secretary Marco Rubio said the State Department was readying a “whole-of-government response” to the tragedy, promising “it’ll be big; it’ll be fast; and it’ll be effective.”

Rubio said he spoke to acting President Delcy Rodríguez to confirm the US would send assistance from Fairfax County, Va., and Los Angeles.

Scenes of devastation played out throughout the quake zone, as amateur footage made the rounds online.

Chaotic footage posted to social media captured terrified people scrambling to safety and shielding their families as ceiling panels collapsed and sparks flew at Maiquetia International Airport.

Harrowing videos also showed baseball players and onlookers running into the field during a game in Caracas as the quake hit, shaking power lines and stadium seats.

With Wires

AP Photo/Pedro Mattey

ANGUISH: A woman in Caracas can’t bear the sight of destruction.

American teams activated

America’s premier search teams are headed to Venezuela to help find and rescue survivors among the rubble.

USA-01 and USA-02 — from Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue in Virginia and from Los Angeles — were activated within hours of the deadly quakes.

USA-01 is now waiting to fly 79 team members, 70,000 pounds of equipment and six sniffer dogs into the disaster zone.

The elite crew, which mainly consists of firefighters but also deploys medics, engineers and dog handlers, has previously carried out missions in deadly natural disasters, including the Haiti earthquake in 2010 and the Japanese tsunami of 2011.

Both rescue teams carried out a training exercise just last month in Virginia to prepare for a large-scale earthquake.

“The State Department are working on all options to get us there the fastest, so we’ll be out the door as soon as we possibly can,” public information officer John Morrison told The Post.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the Department of War would play a “big logistical role” in the response to the crisis.

Alex Diaz

Libs rip Zo’s cop flip-flop

Activists slammed former “defund the police” advocate Mayor Mamdani Thursday for swelling the ranks of New York’s Finest in an about-face from his campaign pledge to reshape the NYPD.

Around 50 elected officials and advocates, including from the local Democratic Socialists of America chapter, gathered around City Hall, calling out the mayor for proposing increasing the Police Department’s headcount.

“The reason I am here is to help the mayor keep the commitment that were made,” said Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, a Mamdani ally.

Hizzoner on the campaign trail last year had promised to freeze the NYPD’s staffing at 35,000. But his executive budget proposal would boost the ranks from the current 33,861 to 35,370 in the 2027 fiscal year.

The group of advocates and officials noted that the mayor was opting to spend scratch on hiring cops instead of housing or education — as the June 30 deadline for the City Council to approve the budget looms.

The mayor said he was taking the criticism into consideration during final budget negotiations.

Matthew Fischetti

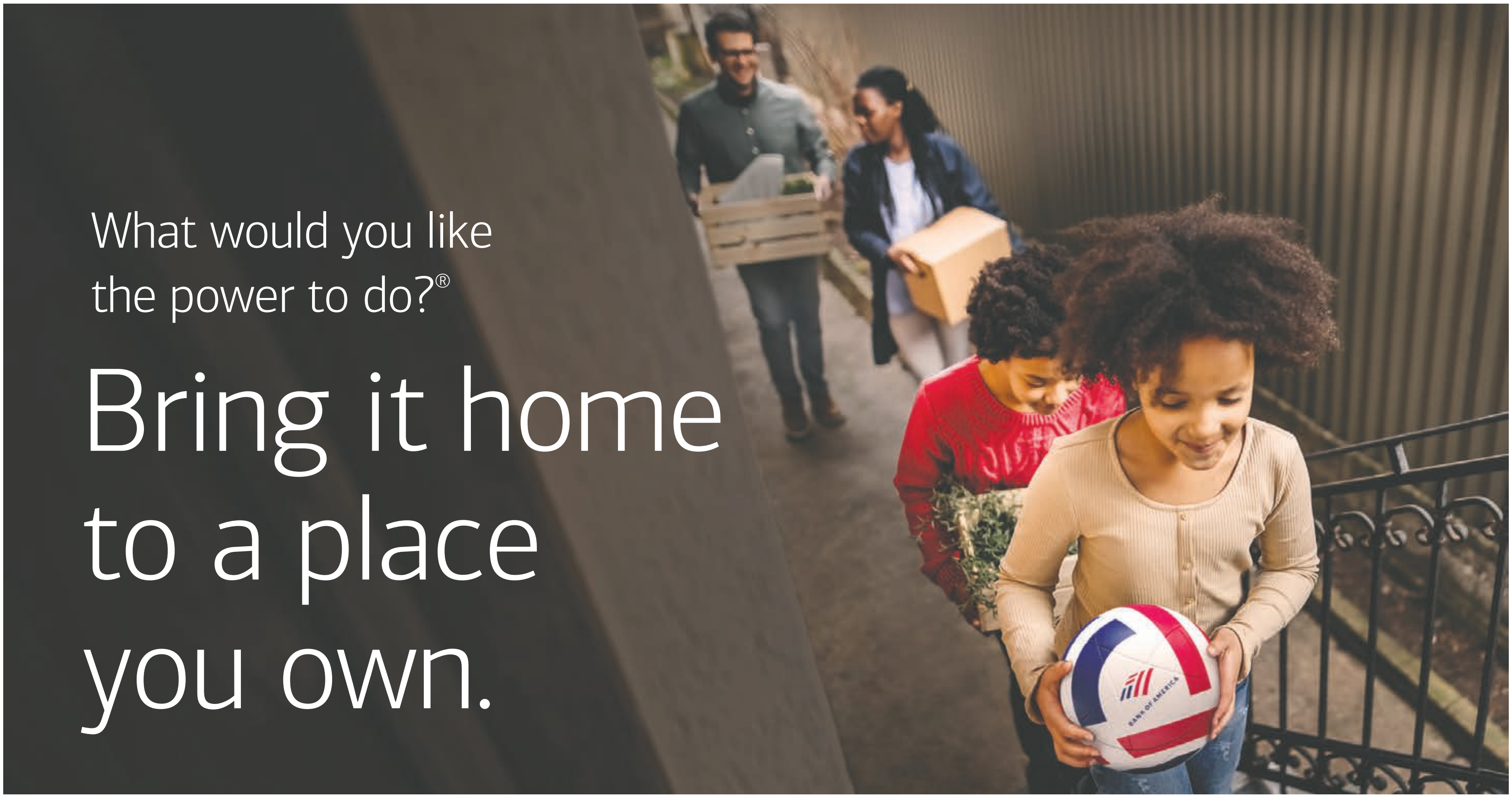
Busted at Suffolk PBA

An activist YouTuber known for his First Amendment video stunts was busted Thursday after he showed up uninvited at Suffolk County PBA headquarters, union leaders told The Post.

Sean Reyes, aka The Long Island Auditor, was arrested for trespassing at the Police Benevolent Association building in Brentwood as he confronted union members on video over reports that cops who admitted to misconduct were allowed to stay on the force until their pensions kicked in, PBA President Lou Civello said.

An official spokesperson for the department couldn’t immediately confirm the charges.

Brandon Cruz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‘VICIOUS E-CYCLE’

Zo’s go-easy on e-bikes a hazard: suit

MEAN STREETS: The city’s easing of penalties for e-bike offenses has “legalized” recklessness, like biker’s (above) driving the wrong way through a crowd of joggers, says a lawsuit filed Thursday against the city.

Stefano Giovannini

By HALEY BROWN
and MATTHEW FISCHETTI

Mayor Mamdani’s directive to go easy on e-bike violations has “legalized” reckless riding and let lawlessness run rampant on city streets, a lawsuit filed on Thursday claimed.

The complaint, filed in Richmond County Supreme Court, claims Mamdani’s March directive illegally bars cops from issuing criminal summonses to e-bike riders who blast through red lights, ride on sidewalks or barrel the wrong way down one way streets.

The suit was filed by NYC Common Sense chair and former mayoral candidate Jim Walden, alongside several New Yorkers injured in e-bike crashes as well as GOP Staten Island Councilman Frank Morano, who is suing in his personal capacity.

“The lack of any actual safety policy, or even concern frankly, is the very definition of capricious decisionmaking, as well as a stunning offense to public trust,” the lawsuit said.

Mamdani’s executive order limits officers to handing out civil tickets for unlicensed e-bike riders, who can ignore them without fear of arrest or license suspension.

Dangerous crashes

The lawsuit blasts Mamdani’s change, saying it effectively “legalized” dangerous riding and turned sidewalks and crosswalks into “zones of exclusion” for seniors and disabled New Yorkers who can’t physically dodge 25 mph e-bikes.

The lawsuit blasts Mamdani’s change, saying it effectively “legalized” dangerous riding and turned sidewalks and crosswalks into “zones of exclusion” for seniors and disabled New Yorkers who can’t physically dodge 25 mph e-bikes.

The complaint cites crash data showing that average citywide e-bike injuries in February 2026 hovered around 50 — compared to a five-year average of over 100.

The same data also show e-bike related crashes nearly halved when the crackdown first started — in April 2025 citywide crashes were over 100 and plummeted to around 50 by February 2026.

The plaintiffs said they were injured by reckless e-bikes.

Plaintiff Bonnie Gerard, 83, was allegedly standing on an Upper East Side sidewalk when an e-bike jumped the curb and crashed into her, knocking her down and leaving her with a concussion, a fractured kneecap and leg injuries that still affect her ability to walk.

Fellow plaintiff Harvey Goldberg, 75, was riding a Citi Bike when an e-bike rider slammed into him on Second Avenue, knocking him unconscious and leaving him with a fractured clavicle and long-term arm immobility that interferes with his work as a physician, according to the lawsuit.

And Roberta Simon said she was walking on a Central Park pedestrian lane when an e-bike slammed into her from behind, knocking her unconscious and breaking several ribs.

She had to have brain surgery and spent days in a coma. She still suffers from dizziness and headaches.

The suit is seeking a policy change, asking a judge to void Mamdani’s policy and restore former Mayor Eric Adams’ criminal enforcement that plaintiffs said cut e-bike crashes and fatalities by about 30%.

They point to NYU Langone data showing e-bike and scooter crashes now account for 7% of all trauma admissions and that pedestrians struck by the devices suffer brain injuries at nearly twice the rate of riders.

In March, the city claimed its new rules were about fairness, ensuring cyclists and e-bike riders, including delivery people, “are treated like others on the road.”

Tainted NYPD big out

A top civilian official in the NYPD’s Community Affairs Bureau, who was previously accused of sexually harassing co-workers, is out of a job after he was wrapped up in other alleged misdeeds, cops and a source said Thursday.

Brian Adams, a director in the bureau, was fired after a probe found he submitted hundreds of unworked hours for pay, misused a department vehicle and lied to investigators about a number of things, a source familiar with his department status told The Post.

He was accused of sexually harassing two women several years ago, but those allegations are not connected to his dismissal, according to the source.

Adams did not comment, but a representative speaking on his behalf, the Rev. Kevin McCall, said Adams denied the claims brought by the department that cut his career short.

“He was very shaken up that this action transpired,” McCall, a civil rights leader, said of the termination.

A NYPD rep Thursday would only say Adams was no longer on the force.

The ousted employee initially faced complaints from two women, filed with the department’s Equal Employment Opportunity Division, for alleged unsavory behavior at One Police Plaza dating back to 2022, The Post previously reported.

The reverend argued that losing Adams would leave a hole in the department.

“The community is going to speak up about his character,” McCall said.

Amanda Woods
and David Propper

$60M COVID lab scam

A North Carolina man pleaded guilty Wednesday to defrauding Medicare out of $60 million through a kickback scheme involving bogus tests for COVID-19, flu and other viruses.

James Shuford Price III, 59, copped to filing a false tax return and paying off collectors of sham test specimens after pilfering funds from Medicare and the California Medical Assistance Program (Medi-Cal) to pay for the tests.

Price submitted $11 million in false claims to Medicare and $85 million in false claims to Medi-Cal for SARS-CoV-2, Influenza A and B, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) tests.

Josh Christenson

Migrant gets 8 years in bilk

An illegal immigrant from Honduras was sentenced to eight years in prison Wednesday for bilking the US government out of nearly $40 million in a payroll tax fraud scheme that helped other aliens find work in America.

Mario Flores conspired with his girlfriend and others to set up shell companies in Orlando, Fla., that operated unlicensed cash courier and check cashing services for construction contractors and subcontractors.

The off-the-books payroll services allowed Flores and his co-conspirators to charge a percentage fee while cashing $89 million in checks for clients between 2015 and 2022.

The contractors and subcontractors then paid the cash directly to employees — without withholding and paying required IRS payroll taxes and allowing them to skirt laws against hiring illegal immigrants.

Flores’ lover, Iris Villafranca, was sentenced to 17 years in prison in April and ordered to pay more than $38 million in restitution for the scheme.

Josh Christenson

HARVEY WEINSTEIN Rape charge dismissed.

No fourth rape trial for Harv

Harvey Weinstein won't face trial for a fourth time on a charge of allegedly raping actress Jessica Mann in 2013 — after the accuser opted not to go through the process of testifying again.

"It was clear to me at this last trial, I can no longer go through this," Mann, 40, said in a letter read aloud during a hearing in Manhattan Supreme Court on Thursday.

Judge Curtis Farber formally dismissed the third-degree rape charge at the request of prosecutors, who decided not to retry the disgraced 74-year-old ex-Miramax boss after a jury failed to reach a unanimous verdict on Mann's allegations for the second time at a trial in May.

Weinstein — who is being held without bail on Rikers Island — still faces up to 25 years in prison when he's sentenced Sept. 23 after a jury found him guilty of a first-degree criminal sex act for allegedly assaulting Miriam Haley, a former TV production assistant. *Greg Carlton and Ben Kochman*

5 more die from Ebola

The number of confirmed Ebola cases in the Democratic Republic of Congo has increased to 1,155, including 304 deaths, government data showed Thursday.

The number represented the total of confirmed cases as of Wednesday, according to a situation report that documented 37 new cases and five new deaths in the previous 24 hours.

Health officials said intensified epidemiological and biological surveillance had enabled earlier detection of cases. *Reuters*

Trump has much to reflect on but ...

ISAAC SCHORR

Media is in empty gene pool

Getty Images

AWASH IN NOTHING: Democrats, joined by left-leaning media, harp on the trouble at the reflecting pool, rather than focus on real issues.

THE furor over President Trump's renovation of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool has turned into a civic bloodbath.

Longtime liberal commentator Paul Farhi has touted the "massive symbolic/metaphorical power" of the narrative war playing out over the National Mall mainstay, pointing to the contrast between Trump's "triumphant claims" and "visible failure."

Namely, the algae blooms and already-peeling coating floating on its surface.

Farhi is right about it being emblematic of our age but hopelessly myopic about how.

In their rush to put points on the board against the president, the Democrats and their reliable friends in the Fourth Estate have developed a telling obsession with the project.

A NewsBusters analysis found that between June 14 and June 22, CNN, MS NOW, ABC, CBS, and NBC have spent almost seven hours covering it.

CNN alone devoted three hours and 35 minutes to the topic, while MS NOW chipped in another two hours and 40 minutes.

And while the "big three" broadcast networks spent far less time on the nontroversy, that's only because they run 16 and a half fewer hours of news programming per day.

Lack of any policy

The coverage was as qualitatively bad as it was quantitatively astounding.

At CNN, cameramen zoomed in on Brianna Keilar's tablet as she asserted the body of water looked like a "patch of grass" from above.

And over at MS NOW, Chris Hayes gleefully deemed its hue "Kermit the Frog green."

The newly established "Democrats Against Public Works" coalition is also up in arms.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) declared the $14 million renovation a "bottomless pit of expense and failure," while his colleague Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) called it an "embarrassing waste of resources."

Bear in mind: Former President Barack Obama spent $34 million on renovations to the same structure during his time in office.

And since when are Democrats opposed to expenses, failures or embarrassing wastes of resources?

The Reflecting Pool craze is a reflection of all the many maladies plaguing their party.

Most glaring among them: their reflexive opposition to anything and everything championed by Trump.

One might imagine Americans of all stripes could get behind a beautification effort in the capital ahead of the country's 250th birthday celebration.

But because Trump, a real-estate mogul to the bitter end, let on that he was passionate about such an effort, they've chosen to declare war on it.

Most damning, though, is what it says about the substance of what the Democrats have to offer.

They latch on to these distractions — the pool, the ballroom, the UFC fight in front of the White House — because they're desperate to paper over their inability to govern.

Recall, if you will, their two humiliating losses at the hands of Trump, both of which came complete with unified GOP control of Congress

A decade after their first defeat, they still prefer churning out tortured metaphors about the Bad Orange Man to articulating a positive vision for America.

In fact, the only Democrats articulating any vision at all are the ascendant, unpatriotic, Third World-worshipping socialists chanting, "Fair is foul, and foul is fair."

Don walks right into it

Still, they're not the only ones with an unhealthy fixation in this story.

By spending months making big promises he ended up not being able to fulfill, clamping down hard on critics' bait, and, most recently, claiming that vandals bear responsibility for the malfunctions without furnishing any evidence, the president has played right into all of the worst character traits he's been charged with.

Trump initially boasted that the project would cost $1.8 million.

Oops.

In a barn-burner of a Truth Social screed, he railed against the "Failing New York Times" over its reporting on the "Great and Beautiful" project.

Hasn't he ever been cautioned against protesting too much?

This administration commits more unforced errors than a blindfolded K-2 tee-ball team.

In the meantime, while America's political elites engage in this great psychodrama over a pseudo-event, its people remain alarmed by the state of the economy and recent events in the Middle East.

Polling suggests that both Trump and the Democrats are astonishingly unpopular.

Were they not running against each other, they'd stand little chance of finding any semblance of success this November.

To the extent the Reflecting Pool should have been a topic of conversation at all — under any circumstances, but the current ones in particular — the dialogue ought to have gone something like:

"Fix it?"

"Yes."

"Good."

But with shortsighted, self-interested leaders like ours in charge, Americans have come to expect them to eschew problem-solving in favor of manufacturing demeaning debacles.

Much to reflect upon, indeed.

Isaac Schorr is a senior editor at Mediaite.

‘Ivy Leagues’ of sleepaways provide

THE RICH PERKS OF 20G CAMPS

By ASIA GRACE

For Elizabeth Weprin, the more than six figures she shelled over the course of nearly a decade for seven weeks of summer camp for her two daughters at Raquette Lake Camp in the Adirondacks was priceless.

Not just for the friendships her daughters would make at the program — where tuition starts at $17,450 per pup — or a summer free of digital distractions, but the networking.

“The crown jewel of these sleepaway camps is the alumni parent network that you can tap into,” Weprin, 55, a Boca Raton, Fla.-based content creator married to an attorney, told The Post.

Relationships with elite captains of industry via Raquette Lake have served as a rich resource to Weprin’s girls Marlie, now 26, and Allie, now 23 — as they’ve transitioned from little campers to college graduates to breadwinners in the workforce.

“I’ve always told my kids, ‘Your Rolodex is everything,’ ” she said, referring to the business contact keeper of yore. “Internships, job opportunities, experiences — it’s all about who you know.”

Rachael Braunschweiger Potash

‘ROUGHING’ IT: Rachael Braunschweiger Potash (top) sends daughters to camp in Maine via private flights, with loads of goodies as well as Amazon deliveries as needed.

Private jet, too

And she’s not the only parent making an expensive investment in their children’s futures.

Rachael Braunschweiger Potash shells out $40,000-plus a year to send her two daughters to Camp Vega, a girls-only summer oasis on Echo Lake in Fayette, Maine — where her children have made an influential circle of friends.

And this year, after already spending nearly the equivalent of a year of private school fees on the camp experience, she’s devoting an extra bit of budget toward an elite treat for her daughters, 13 and 15, and their pals.

After they reach the Big Apple from their beautiful home in Boca Raton, Potash will then escort her brood to Westchester, where they’ll join friends aboard a private plane headed to camp in Maine.

It’s a first-class treat that Potash, along with a small group of camp parents, decided to gift their girls this year.

And while the extravagant excursion isn’t built into the roughly $20,000 per child camp tuition fee, it is one of the many posh perks afforded to the lucky little ones whose folks can afford to send them to swanky sleepaways — including some with annual dues exceeding $150,000.

“My kids absolutely love going to camp every year,” Potash, a lifestyle influencer, exclusively told The Post.

“Money comes and goes,” said the mom, “but if you’re going to spend your money, summer camp is one of the things you spend it on.”

Omakase classes

But while a whopping 24.6 million tots, tweens and teens across the US want their kids to experience what the Potash and Weprin children do each summer, per a May 2026 study, very few can actually afford access to it; 38% of those families cite high costs as a major deterrent, according to the report.

You can’t blame them, as some camps cost as much as $4,500 a week, like the AI-powered summer day camp in the Hamptons that teaches “life building skills” and has wild offerings such as omakase classes and a Trojan-horse workshop.

Because of these absurdly high costs, only 13% of low- and middle-income children are actually able to attend camp, compared to 45% of those in high–income homes, according to the study.

But for a first-rate, rustic adventure miles away from home — and a lifelong influential network — parents like Potash don’t mind spending big.

“I didn’t grow up going to camp but their father, my late husband, did. He always wanted his girls to go,” Potash explained.

“The kids are actually spending their summer doing things that kids should be doing — waterskiing, kayaking, swimming, gymnastics, dance, art, making s’mores,” she raved. “Plus, they’re learning how to be empowered, independent young women before going off to college.”

Although Camp Vega enforces a firm uniform policy — meaning attendees are expected to wear camp-stamped clothing during their stays — there’s still a status symbol attached to bringing the “right” camping gear and swag.

Potash’s girls were adamant about loading their camping trunks with chi-chi toiletries by Method body wash, and cutesy pajamas from Brandy Melville, Eberjey and Roller Rabbit.

After shopping the hottest brands, and transforming her formal dining room into “camp headquarters,” where they label and pack all their camp gear, Potash pays handsomely for a concierge shipping service to transport the trunks and duffels to the girls’ camp bunks up north.

“But even after the trunks get picked up and they’re gone, we’re still ordering stuff,” she laughed to The Post. “I still have a list of stuff to buy because there’s just never enough time.”

Upscale PJs & swag

Under major time crunches, newcomers to the upscale sleepaway swing rush to haute camping goods retailer, Denny’s & Lester’s, which sees parents, from New York to Florida, scrambling to secure a one-on-one appointment with in-store experts adept in sleepaway swag.

“Parents start booking their summer camp appointments in January, and we see folks rushing to get last-minute needs right up until their children leave,“ Spencer Klein, a chain owner, told The Post.

“We try to buddy each kid up with the best person that would fit the camper’s criteria,” said Klein. “We offer everything from bedding, pillows and bunk needs to clothing and gear, accessories. We label every item and embroider their trunks with their names.”

“It’s our busiest time of the year.”

And likely one of the most lucrative times, too.

Dani Cohen, a married mom of three sons en route to co-ed sleepaway Camp Walt Whitman in New Hampshire’s White Mountains, annually spends between $1,500 to $3,000 at the store, ensuring her boys — ages 11, 9 and 7 — are good to go once

upper-class networking for kids & kin

SPLASHY: Elizabeth Weprin's daughters, Marlie and Allie (left), have made lasting friendships and have access to an elite "alumni parent network" at their posh camp.

Elizabeth Weprin

they're gone for the season.

The pricey shopping spree is merely the cherry on top of the more than $15,000, per child, camp tuition that the 40-something and husband Jason pay for her kiddos to frolic in the greenery for seven weeks.

"I start booking my camp appointments at Denny's in November," Cohen, a special education advocate from New Canaan, Conn., explained. "They take care of everything and all I have to do is pay for it."

"It's minimal sweat until I look at that bill," she chuckled. "It's like sticker shock. They put everything into that box, then ring it up and you're like, 'How did this happen?' "

And the spending doesn't end once her boys hop on the bus to camp.

Almost immediately after their departure, Cohen books flights and hotels, or rents an RV, for her and Jason's mid-season stay during Visiting Day, a highly anticipated time when families reunite with their campers, showering them with luxe baubles and treats.

"We definitely bring food, goodies and trinkets with us. One kid usually asks for pickles, my niece gets sushi," said Cohen. "They get everything from pickles to hacky sacks to the latest new games."

For Weprin, every penny she spent on her girls' summers was worth it. Yes, for the boons of hobnobbing with the upper crust, but also for the lifelong friendships her daughters have established.

"These girls have such a strong love for each other. They may not have gone to the same schools or grown up in the same neighborhoods, but they are there for one another no matter what — birthdays, graduations, the loss of a parent, whatever," said Weprin.

"And that's the biggest benefit. That love," the homemaker continued, shrugging off whatever crazy sums of cash she's ponied up over the years.

"They still can't get enough of each other."

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He's Kean to come back

By SAMUEL CHAMBERLAIN

Rep. Tom Kean Jr. has returned to his northern New Jersey home as he prepares to come back to Congress next week after an unexplained absence lasting nearly four months.

Kean (R-NJ) greeted a New York Times reporter at his home in Westfield Wednesday, but declined to speak on his time away, saying: "It's good to see you. I'll talk to you next week. Thank you."

The 57-year-old's top adviser, Harrison Neely, added in a text message to the Times that Kean "will be fully transparent" when he returns to Washington on June 30.

Kean, the son of former Garden State Gov. Tom Kean Sr., last cast a House vote on March 5 and has missed 139 roll calls since. His team has declined to explain his absence beyond calling it a "personal health matter" and claiming the congressman is "focused on his recovery."

REP. TOM KEAN Jr. Due back in House.

Earlier this month, House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) confirmed to reporters on Capitol Hill, "I do know what his health issue is, but he's asked me not to disclose that."

"It's not a scandalous thing at all," Johnson added June 3. "People deal with health issues. Maybe that's a news flash for you, but even members of Congress get sick as well."

Reports that Kean had left Westfield, about 20 miles from Manhattan, raised speculation about the nature of his illness, while some constituents complained that their phone calls and emails had gone unanswered.

Kean's chief of staff, Dan Scharfenberger, could only muster a cryptic explanation, telling the Times on May 12: "There's no cameras where Tom is."

During his absence, Kean won the Republican nomination for a third House term repping New Jersey's 7th Congressional District after running in the primary unopposed. He will face Democrat Rebecca Bennett in a race seen by many as a toss-up.

"I certainly wish him well, and I hope he has a speedy recovery. I do think looking at his record, he has absolutely failed this district," Bennett told NBC News May 21.

GOP demands ActBlue data

House Republican committee chairmen are demanding records from a law firm that worked on behalf of ActBlue but was fired and then allegedly "smeared" by the Democratic fundraising platform for sounding the alarm about potentially foreign donations flowing to campaigns.

In a Thursday letter, the chairmen on the Administration, Judiciary and Oversight committees wrote to Covington & Burling partner Dana Remus to request documents and communications "referring or relating to the potential or actual use of ActBlue to make fraudulent or illegal political contributions."

A Covington & Burling spokesperson told The Post the firm "received the letter," and "is reviewing it."

The law firm issued a memo to ActBlue in early 2025 that warned the fundraising platform's shifting fraud standards "be alleged that ActBlue accepted and/or facilitated the acceptance of foreign-national contributions into American elections," in violation of federal law, according to The New York Times.

Josh Christenson

Tots sweat out sprinkler fails

Spray it ain't so!

The beloved spray showers used by tiny tots to cool off during the hot summer months in city parks have been reportedly out of service in record numbers at dozens of green spaces this summer — and parents are fuming.

Parks officials recently lamented that the city is grappling with "dozens of sprinkler outages" and the department has "very few staff resources for repairs," according to emails from the agency obtained by The Post.

A whopping 668 calls have been made to the city Parks Department about defective service at more than 250 locations since Memorial Day — the agency's "target" date for when all of its spray showers should be up and running — marking a 40% increase in complaints compared to the same period last year.

"When a spray shower has an issue, we make every effort to repair it as soon as possible," a Parks spokesperson told The Post, adding that the "vast majority" of the water features are in operation.

Nicole Rosenthal

Partiers killed in hit-run

Two New Jersey women were fatally struck by a hit-and-run driver when they were walking home from a World Cup watch party on Saturday, horrifying video showed.

Mariana Elizabeth Valverde Beltran, 58, and Maria Isabel DeLosAngeles Salgado Ayala, 61, were walking across the intersection at Park Avenue and North 7th Street in Newark when a driver barreled into the pair, the Essex County Prosecutor's Office said.

Street surveillance cameras captured the suspect, identified as 26-year-old David J. Zapata-Vera, racing through the intersection, striking the two women and sending them airborne, according to video obtained by WABC.

One witness alleged that Zapata-Vera stepped on his accelerator and sped through the crosswalk as the traffic light was in the middle of changing.

"I don't know if he was drunk, but anyway, he put the gas and that's what happens," Manuel Candelaria told the outlet.

The women were rushed to University Hospital Newark, where they were pronounced dead.

Relatives of the women were left traumatized by their deaths.

"You have to live with this for the rest of your life. I hope the person is found but also for that person it's something you have to live with for the rest of your life, it's on your conscience," Beltran's cousin, Jeffrey Chacon, told WABC.

"My dad is managing his emotions with trying to contact everyone in Ecuador, her sisters, her son," he added.

Zapata-Vera, of Newark, surrendered to police Tuesday, three days after the crash.

Nicholas McEntyre

Fans getting a 'kick' out of Times Square

JOYFUL NOISE: Throngs of fans celebrate their respective Germany (right) and Ecuador (bottom) teams with a battle of the bands in Times Square, complete with drums and cymbals.

dpa/picture alliance via Getty Images

CULTURE CLASH

By JORDAN DONEGAN
and KATHERINE DONLEVY

Soccer fans repping Ecuador and Germany swarmed Times Square to show off their national pride in the hours before the team's matchups — including by igniting a battle of the bands in the tourist hub.

Exhilarating video shows throngs of fans from both teams banging drums and clashing symbols in between chants in their respective languages in the Crossroads of the World.

The rival fans were clearly split, with Ecuadorian fans donning bright yellow jerseys and German diehards repping their team with white T-shirts — though some of the Europeans also danced in giant inflatable costumes.

The massive party heated up as the teams faced off in a 4 p.m. match at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey — in which Ecuador snatched a surprise 2-1 win over the favored German squad.

Mateo Armijos, 25, was in Times Square from his home in Ecuador, to support his national team — saying the energy was electric because the US is home to so many ex-pats. Armijos had been to the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, but said the energy did not compare to that of the Big Apple.

"I think you can do a lot of things in New York. You never get bored, you can meet a lot of and go to a lot of places, and it's a good city for young people. It's chaotic, but it's nice," said Armijos.

Jörg Stangl, of Germany, had been trailing his team across numerous states over the past two weeks and has been enjoying his brief time living like an American.

Sticker shock

"I'm really comfortable with American way of life. Every time I come here, I have a nice time and have really nice talks. What's the most comfortable thing I really appreciate with the United States is at some traffic light or in a pub, you can have really nice talks. This is very unusual, at least for us in Germany," said Stangl.

Fellow German André Domnowsky, who is living in Indonesia, however, was experiencing sticker and culture shock.

"Beer is quite expensive .... I don't just give a tip because. I don't see a reason — if I have a $200 bill, why I should give $40 to a random person who didn't speak to me at all just because it says tip 20%? So I'm not doing that," Domnowsky said shamelessly.

Hundreds of fans rooting for both countries packed the bars around Times Square as the game began, with both sides erupting in cheers as the score was brought to an even 1-1 in the first few moments.

"It's not just about statistics. I believe in our team. I know that we are a team who are always performing in tournaments. So we are a tournament team. That's why I believe today is a good start to win again," maintained Marcel Kissing of Düsseldorf, Germany.

The two teams will face off at the NY/NJ Stadium Thursday in their final group round game.

The teams have only faced off a handful of times in recent year.

Iran-Egypt Pride Match furor

The Iranian and Egyptian soccer federations have urged FIFA to strip any "Pride Match" displays and rainbow symbols from Friday's World Cup match in Seattle.

The contest is scheduled during the city's Pride weekend and has been referred to as the "Pride Match."

While FIFA confirmed to The New York Times that rainbow flags remain permitted at all World Cup matches this summer, its president, Gianni Infantino, has previously distanced the governing body from the event's promotional themes.

He insisted any events taking place in Seattle have "nothing to do with the match itself."

Daniel Cody

KIN-SLAY SHOCK

HORROR: Amy Steadman (below with grandkids) reportedly fatally poisoned the kids, herself and her daughter, Sarah Myers (left), maybe enraged by a custody win by their dad, the dad says.

Facebook / Amy Steadman; Facebook / Sarah Myers

NY granny 'killed 5 & self'

By GEORGIA WORRELL

The grandma found dead alongside her daughter and four grandchildren in her upstate New York home appears to have poisoned them all, police said in a shocking update Thursday — as the slain kids' father spoke of his heartbreak at never seeing them again.

A handwritten note found at Amy Steadman's home "strongly suggests" that she was "involved" in the deaths of her daughter, Sarah Myers, 44, and Myers' four children: Harper Harmon, 13, Hudson Harmon, 11, and 10-year-old twins Gavin and Gracelynn, Mechanicville Chief of Police Bill Rabbitt told a press conference.

One of the children was stabbed, while the rest appear to have been poisoned — possibly in a rage over their dad recently getting custody, sources told Channel 13.

Syringes, drugs

"There is recovered evidence from inside the apartment indicating intentional poisoning — to include numerous prescriptions and over-the-counter medications," Rabbit told reporters, noting no evidence of anyone else being involved.

"Evidence recovered during the investigation, including a handwritten note, and other circumstantial evidence, strongly suggests that Amy Steadman was involved in the deaths," he said, stressing that the investigation is ongoing.

Sources told Channel 13 that the children were injected with drugs, with syringes found inside their grandma's home.

The relatives had all been dead "for an extended period of time" by Tuesday evening, when a concerned neighbor who hadn't seen Steadman in several days called police for a welfare check around 6:20 p.m., according to Rabbitt.

The bodies were too badly decomposed for responding officers to immediately identify them, he said.

Steadman had allegedly grown resentful after her grandchildren's father, Brady Harmon, was recently granted two-month custody of the kids — which was due to start next Wednesday, sources told Channel 13 News.

The dad, who hasn't seen the kids since 2019, was excitedly preparing for their arrival at his Utah home until cops knocked on his door to break the harrowing news Tuesday, he told the Times Union.

Distraught dad

"I went from, 'I'm seeing my kids,' to 'I'll never see my kids again,' " Harmon said, according to the outlet. "Hope to hell."

"Things happen, but nothing like this."

Harmon accused his slain ex-wife of keeping the kids from him, and only allowing him to communicate with them on occasional FaceTime calls.

He now wants to bury his children in Utah.

"I want them as far away as possible from their mother," he told the Times Union between tears.

The police chief said the investigation remains ongoing and will take "a considerable amount of time to get right," according to Rabbitt.

But he stressed that investigators "believe these deaths occurred entirely within the apartment and found no evidence indicating the involvement of any outside individual."

"Final determinations regarding responsibility will be made only after all investigative findings, toxicology results and medical reviews have been completed," Rabbitt said.

Map slap at NYS Dems

New Yorkers believe that the greedy plan by Democrats to carve up the state's congressional maps to give themselves a leg-up against Republicans will be bad for the Empire State, according to a new poll.

Only a minor 21% of New Yorkers think that a proposed constitutional amendment — backed by Gov. Hochul and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries — to redraw the maps in their favor was "good for New York," the latest Siena University survey found.

Even the Democratic voters polled roundly reject the aggressive gerrymandering effort, with just 26% saying they think their own pols in Albany should be able to draw the districts.

A much more substantial 38% of Democrats said it was bad, and 21% were in the middle.

Overall, a plurality of voters surveyed (44%) said they believed the proposed 2027 redistricting amendment was bad for the Empire State. About one in five New Yorkers (21%) were in the middle, according to the poll. This "proves that New Yorkers are too smart to buy into Democrats' nonsense about 'saving democracy,'" Republican Committee spokesperson David Laska told The Post. *Vaughn Golden*

Powerless Russians

Power was fully or partially cut off across the Russian-held part of Ukraine's Kherson region bordering Crimea, the Russian-installed governor, Vladimir Saldo, said on Telegram early on Friday.

Saldo did not provide details.

In Sevastopol, the biggest city in Crimea which Russia annexed in 2014, power supply was restricted to avoid overloading the strained network, following Ukraine drone attacks . The number of trains to Crimea will be gradually reduced, Crimea's Russia-installed governor said on Thursday.

Reuters

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‘Adressing’ Tay’s nups looks

Page Six®
Ian Mohr
imohr@nypost.com
Oli Coleman
ocoleman@nypost.com
Mara Siegler
msiegler@nypost.com
Carlos Greer
cgreer@nypost.com

WHY choose one dress, when you could have several eras in one day? A source tells Page Six that **Taylor Swift** will have multiple outfit changes during her wedding celebration to **Travis Kelce** next weekend.

We’re told there are several custom dresses in the running that she will choose from, with one of the top contenders by Monse designers **Laura Kim** and **Fernando Garcia**, the former co-creative directors of Oscar de la Renta.

The powerhouse designers have dressed an A-list roster of brides including **Amal Clooney**, **Paris Hilton** and **Naomi Watts** — and they’ve long been among Swift’s favorite fashion collaborators.

Just this week, Swift stunned in an asymmetrical black strapless Monse gown at Kelce’s Tight End University event in Nashville, Tenn.

The singer also wore a $36,990 Oscar de la Renta design from the duo’s pre-spring 2026 collection to pal **Selena Gomez**’s wedding in September 2025.

The fashion love affair goes back more than a decade. In 2014, Swift wore a gown by Oscar to the famed Met Gala, with Kim telling WWD that Swift was “the sweetest.”

The “Cruel Summer” songstress also appeared in their looks for the premiere of “Cats” in 2019, the 2021 Grammy Awards, and the 2022 and 2024 MTV VMAs.

Kim and Garcia are also behind two memorable outfits from the Eras Tour.

They announced in September 2025 that they were stepping down from Oscar de la Renta — with fall 2026 being their last collection — after nine years to focus on their own line, Monse.

Meanwhile, what Swift will wear for her big day has been cloaked in mystery and we’re told there are NDAs in place.

An industry source tells us that when a brand frequently dresses a celebrity, it would not be uncommon for them to have a mannequin made of the star so they could work on the dress without needing them to come in.

Icons to honor icon

KENNY G, **Dionne Warwick**, **Barry Manilow**, **Jennifer Hudson** and **Bruce Springsteen** are all expected to take part in Clive Davis’ memorial service on Monday, Page Six hears. They’ve all had important relationships with the late record industry legend. Davis — who shaped the modern music industry at labels including Columbia, RCA and his own, Arista — died on Monday at his home in Manhattan at 94.

Lionel hosp scare

LIONEL Richie was rushed to the hospital after he fell ill onstage and abruptly ended his concert early. During the opening night of his 26-city North American tour at the Grand Casino Arena in St. Paul, Minn., the four-time Grammy winner fell ill while onstage. Per videos shared online, Richie (above) was forced to sit down several times while singing “Dancing on the Ceiling.” “When you’re feeling dizzy, sit your ass down,” Richie, 77, told the crowd, according to the Minnesota Star Tribune. A Saint Paul FD spokesperson told Page Six they “did transport an adult male from the arena last night to a local hospital.” The “All Night Long” singer’s condition remains unclear.

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Vatican News

The team is blessed! Author Jonathan Safran Foer gifts Pope Leo XIV a Knicks skullcap, perfect for a pontiff who shares an alma mater with several players.

Pope Leo and Almighty are Knicks fans, too

DID the Knicks have some divine intervention to become NBA champs this season? When Pope **Leo XIV** received a group of elite writers yesterday to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Vatican Publishing House, “Everything Is Illuminated” author **Jonathan Safran Foer** was on the sacred scene and gifted the pontiff a Knicks yarmulke (above), we hear. A devout Knicks fan in Vatican City tells us Leo remarked, “You know, their best players came from Villanova,” and added, “I also went to Villanova.” That prompted Safran Foer to quip, “So I’ve heard. Some people think the team had some ‘special’ help.” The pope replied, “Maybe they did,” according to our spiritual spy. Our observant source said Safran Foer actually had trouble procuring the Knicks’ yarmulke because the skullcaps flew off the shelves. Instead, he saw a kid on the street wearing one and told the tyke he’d buy it right off his head before heading to Rome. When the kid (wisely) wanted $50, Safran Foer apparently told him, “It’s for the pope!” But the kid “wouldn’t negotiate. True,” the source said.

John word $earch

A handwritten interview with John Lennon is up for auction. Highlights from the six-page interview includes Lennon’s one-word responses to describe his counterparts. For example, Elvis? “Fat,” he wrote. Bowie? “Thin.” **Paul**? “Extraordinary.” **Yoko**? “Love.” The 1976 interview is between Lennon and one of his fans. The memorabilia belongs to photographer **Michael Simon**, who lived in the same building as Lennon. He’s selling it through Goldin Auctions this weekend and he hopes it goes for over a quarter million, he told Page Six, noting, “The pages reveal a mix of Lennon’s typical wit, philosophy and disdain for sanitization, ending with a beautiful sketch of a lamb standing on a cloud.”

Pill-ar of genius

APPROPRIATELY for an ad about the morning-after pill, we’ve made a mistake and want to reverse it. It turns out we had **Chet Hanks** all wrong. Partly because of his rap career and reality TV appearances, and partly because his dad and older brother have venerable acting careers, Hanks (above) has often been seen as a . . . well, dummy. Page Six has newfound respect after learning he will appear in an ad campaign poking fun at his image for morning-after pill Julie, with the tagline: “Having a dumb boyfriend is a universal experience, having one as the father of your children doesn’t need to be.” Influencer **Hallie Batchelder** also stars in the campaign, which we’re told was known internally as “I’m With Stupid.”

Butt-ing in to party

FOR a stratospherically high-level media bash, the launch of **Maggie Haberman** and **Jonathan Swan**'s new book, "Regime Change," was surprisingly butt-centric. Paying homage to institutional journalism as only an Aussie could, Swan said, "I once heard one of my favorite magazine writers compare an editor to a hospital worker who trails along behind you to make sure your arse isn't showing out the back of your hospital gown." He added, "Our editors do so much more than that. But they also do constantly conceal our arses. You cannot possibly imagine the amount of bare arse that would be on display in the pages of 'Regime Change' if Maggie and I couldn't rely on a monumental amount of help from our editors." Paying her own tribute to Swan, Haberman offered her own anorectal allusion, saying that he, in just a few years, worked his way up to being one of the top DC reporters — "and he did it the old-fashioned way: through hard work, and not being an a--hole." Among those celebrating at the New York Times HQ were **Chris Christie**, **Preet Bharara**, **Lis Smith**, **Jeff Zucker** and **Allison Gollust**, **Joe Kahn**, **A.G. Sulzberger**, **Tina Brown**, **Gayle King**, **Al Roker** and **Deborah Roberts**, **Vanessa Friedman**, **Jacob Bernstein** and more.

More celebrity photos at PageSix.com

Madonna is in her silver age as she's "booted" from the Ritz Hotel in Paris during fashion week.

BACKGRID

Royal 'spectacle' on tap

PRINCE **Harry** is expected to bring his own security team when his family visits London next month, as sources said he and wife **Meghan Markle** are preparing for a "huge spectacle." Harry — who pays about $3 million a year for private security in the US — has yet to be given VIP security after battling the British Home Office for 24/7 armed police escorts and is in a "holding pattern," we're told. But he has been offered a royal residence with private security for his stay with Markle and their kids Prince **Archie**, 7, and Princess **Lilibet**, 5. A source told The Post's **Sara Nathan** the family won't fly by private jet, but will have their own bodyguards, adding, "Harry always travels with one or two of his own security team." The Sussexes' first trip to the UK in four years has been planned to mark the countdown until the Invictus Games in Birmingham next summer, and Harry wants to reunite with his father, King **Charles**, who has barely seen Archie and Lilibet.

We hear

THAT "Tell It To My Heart" singer **Taylor Dayne** has opened the waterfront restaurant Saylor Beach House in Greenport . . . THAT fashion brand Rebecca Taylor will be doing a monthlong pop-up at The Hub in Bridgehampton starting Wednesday . . . THAT the cast and creative team from Apple's "Ted Lasso" will appear at the Paley Museum Aug. 6 to celebrate the new season, including a conversation and a screening of the first two episodes . . . THAT Celsius energy drinks will have stars from Bravo's "Summer House" in their section at the Palm Tree Music Festival in Southampton.

Julia Roberts' son **Phinnaeus**, 21, makes sure his mom can't be a "Runaway Bride" while on a walk in Manhattan.

BrosNYC / BACKGRID

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‘Sense of possibility’

American Dreamers

Through July 4, The Post, in conjunction with the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream, is featuring US citizens explaining what the American dream means to them in 2026. Among them is Khadijah Sharif-Drinkard, senior vice president for Business Affairs at ABC News and the author of the new book “Power Reimagined: My Mission to Get It, Grow It, and Give It Away.”

ABC News exec
The Milken Institute

RAISED IN PROJECTS: Khadijah Sharif-Drinkard said the American dream is also about what you give.

THE American dream to me is being able to create a masterpiece of my own life out of a blank canvas — to be able to transform something that was a challenge into something that is, in fact, an opportunity.

I actually grew up in Harlem. I’m one of six children, growing up in Manhattan housing projects. [It was a] mix in some ways between the Harlem Renaissance — but also the epicenter of the crack cocaine era . . .

I always felt a sense of excitement about being in Harlem, a sense of possibility, despite some of the challenges that we have there. I learned early on that you had to be vigilant about standing up for yourself in many ways, but also passionate about seeking the educational opportunities that you actually needed to be successful in life . . .

As a young kid, I always knew I wanted to go to law school. I read about people like Barbara Jordan, who was a congresswoman out of Texas, and Shirley Chisholm, who was a congresswoman out of Brooklyn. And so I saw the law as a vehicle to help people articulate ideas and communicate the things that needed to be fixed in our communities.

I initially went to law school to be a human rights lawyer, and then, decided that I had a passion for media as well. So I figured a way to try to mesh both of them by doing delegations on human rights issues at the same time as I practiced media law.

The American dream is not just about what you get, but what you give. I think that’s probably the biggest thing for me.

The American Dream Video Project showcases real stories that illuminate pathways to opportunity. Featured at the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream (MCAAD), this series is part of the Center’s celebration of America’s 250th anniversary. For more information, visit mcaad.org.

Honors for hero EMT

The EMT who rushed into action to save a suspected overdosing Knicks fan at the team’s ticker-tape parade last week got a surprise honor, as city officials unexpectedly gave her a first-of-its-kind award for bravery.

Simone Kelly, 24, got the first-ever Health Commissioner’s Award for Lifesaving Action this week — just days after the New Jersey native went viral for her heart-stopping courage.

“It’s an honor. I haven’t been able to tell the magnitude of everything going on and how widespread the story has been reaching, but this really cemented that this is larger than I even realized,” Kelly told The Post.

City Health Commissioner Dr. Alister Martin had invited Kelly to the department’s offices in Long Island City Tuesday for what she thought was a discussion on harm reduction and addiction services.

But during a tour of the old Tammany Hall building, the health boss surprised her with the award that he created just for her.

The kicker was a recommendation letter that Martin wrote on behalf of Kelly, imploring her dream medical school to admit her as a student. *Katherine Donlevy*

Hawaii gun law overturn

The Supreme Court slapped down Hawaii's so-called "vampire rule" Thursday, ruling that requiring gun owners to get permission before bringing firearms on private property open to the public is unconstitutional.

In a 6-3 decision, the high court concluded that the Hawaii law flouted the Second Amendment and common law precedent.

"The Second Amendment has the same meaning in all parts of the United States . . . It cannot give way to 'the spirit of Aloha' in Hawaii . . . any more than it can yield to the spirit of the Big Apple (Bruen) or the Windy City (McDonald)," conservative Justice Samuel Alito wrote in the majority opinion, quoting a widely mocked Hawaii Supreme Court opinion upholding the law and referencing past gun cases decided by the justices.

The Aloha State had passed Act 52 — which applied to places like stores, hotels and gas stations — in 2023. The law acquired the "vampire" nickname in a nod to "Dracula" lore that bloodsucking monsters cannot enter homes without an invitation.

Other states, such as California, New York and New Jersey have similar laws in place. *Ryan King*

'Insanity' in ma baby slay

A Florida woman who blamed COVID-19 for allegedly killing her toddler and stabbing two other relatives was stunningly acquitted of all criminal charges.

Precious Bland — who admitted to drowning her 15-month-old daughter in a bathtuband then knifing her husband and teen daughter in August 2021 — was suffering from a psychotic break triggered by COVID-19 during the incident, her lawyers argued during a two-day bench trial in Miami-Dade County this week.

The judge found her not guilty by reason of insanity on aggravated manslaughter and first-degree attempted murder. *Georgia Worrell*

Comic couple drama year's funniest

Johnny Oleksinski

MOVIE REVIEW

THE INVITE

'Stupendously funny'

Running time: 107 minutes.
Rated R. In theaters Friday.

★★★★

INVITING: Director Olivia Wilde (left) also stars in "The Invite" with Seth Rogen, as a bitterly married couple, who invite their bohemian neighbors, played by Penelope Cruz (right) and Edward Norton to dinner.

WireImage

DON'T MISS A 'WILDE' RIDE

IF a better comedy than "The Invite" hits theaters this year, audiences will be lucky to RSVP.

Director Olivia Wilde's outstanding movie should go down as one of the best of 2026. Of any genre. You'll howl.

What a stunning return to form this is for Wilde after the letdown that was "Don't Worry Darling."

I, for one, am no longer worrying, darlings, because now she's firmly back in prime "Booksmart" territory with a sophisticated, snappy, seductive and stupendously funny film about a long-married couple who are in way over their heads.

They're Joe (Seth Rogen) and Angela (Wilde doing double duty), husband-and-wife apartment dwellers for whom marriage has become a sleepy series of silent nights and petty grievances.

Their passive-aggressive put-downs are flung so quickly and casually, you walk out convinced Wilde and Rogen have been secretly married for 20 years.

Many great jokes

One evening, when their 12-year-old daughter is at a friend's house, Angela invites their bohemian upstairs neighbors Hawk (Edward Norton) and Pina (Penelope Cruz) over for a classy wine-and-charcuterie party.

High-strung Angela desperately aspires to be considered cultured. As she strenuously tries to prove herself, Wilde gives one of her finest performances. Practically rhythmic gymnastics.

She mentally grasps for the thesaurus when she attempts to describe her super basic home renovation. Her face twists in operatic agony over snafus with her cheese souffle and empty wine cabinet. A bored stay-at-home mom, Angela is itching to host the cosmopolitan couple.

But Joe, a music teacher who hates his job, loathes the free-spirited pair because they have foghorn-loud sex into the early morning, and insists the get-together be called off. Too late. The pair knock, knock, knock mid-fight.

"We love a contentious environment," says zen Hawk.

"You've hit the jackpot then," deadpans Joe.

They sure have.

The phenomenal script is a bullet train of mean slights, awkward miscommunications, deception and "oh no!" bombshells. And Wilde, her actors — especially masterful Rogen — and the editor are silliness savants.

Punchlines, witty asides and physical bits are delivered and choreographed with such easy dexterity that "The Invite" almost doesn't feel like a 2026 comedy — a designation that usually means "dumb as rocks" or "drama with a clown nose."

The style here is retro, yet the sheer abundance of truly great jokes keeps it fresh and modern.

Poignant, too

And, while Hawk and Pina — whose jobs are too amusing to drop here — are their life-loving opposites, Norton and Cruz don't ham it up. They aren't the Fockers; they're that inhibitionless friend who says, "Come with me to Mykonos!" a day before the flight.

The two zesty actors are hilarious. However, in a reversal, it's the "straight" duo who provide most of the laughs — not the wacky one.

"The Invite" is lusty for sure, but it has a serious side, which barges in during the final half hour when questions about Joe and Angela's relationship tumble out into the open.

Issues millions of people face every day are addressed cleverly and poignantly, and never without a hint of humor. Wilde isn't really interested in sentimentality, either, and her movie hits harder for it.

"The Invite" might be the worst party of the year, but beg, borrow and steal for an invite.

NYC CLASSROOM

Educators: It hurts learning, aids cheating

By KYRA BRESLIN and
HARSHARN SINGH

A few months ago, a third-grade student in Brooklyn was assigned — like the rest of his classmates — an AI-powered reading program called Amira.

He was already reading at a sixth-grade level, but he also suffered from hearing loss.

Amira, the AI program, repeatedly flagged his pronunciation — which was sometimes slightly off, due to his hearing impediment — directing him to practice simple words again and again.

"It was having him reread words like 'cat' and 'bat' and 'dog,' " his mother, who wanted to remain anonymous, told The Post.

"He could read them. He just couldn't pronounce them the way the bot needed him to."

When she tried to opt her son out of the program, she said both the school and district officials initially told her no, and his feedback improved the technology for future students.

"I never consented to allow my child to train an AI chatbot," she continued. "I never consented to allow my child to be used in this manner at all."

Classroom tech issue

The question of technology in school classrooms is a thorny one.

There is no doubt that staying abreast of the latest technology is key — it is already shaping jobs and industries, and today's young students will need to be fully literate in it.

But swathes of teachers, parents and even students are raising concerns that technology and AI in the classroom is hindering learning, normalizing cheating and coming at far too great a cost — educationally and financially.

One parent told The Post that her child used a school-issued device to screenshot math problems and run them through programs like Google Lens to receive answers in seconds.

Similarly, essays can be drafted by chatbots before a child writes a single sentence with their hand.

One teacher revealed that their school has begun removing laptops from classrooms altogether because they are disruptive and distract students from learning.

"These kids are not going to be self-reliant," Aixa Rodriguez, an English teacher at Motion Picture Technical High School, told The Post.

Big money investment

New York City's Department of Education has over $1 billion in technology contracts.

The Chromebook initiative alone — which involved issuing almost every New York City student with a device — has become one of the Department of Education's largest technology investments.

When they were first adopted, the devices were a vital classroom aid — children could complete their homework on them, attend remote school (key during the pandemic) and use them for research.

But as search engines evolved and AI technology became ubiquitous, some DOE teachers told The Post they questioned the enormous investment versus the impact on learning.

City records reviewed by The Post show New York City has committed roughly $530 million across two Chromebook contracts with CDW Government since 2014.

The second contract, originally awarded at $13.8 million in 2017, was repeatedly renewed and amended until its authorized value reached nearly $497 million by 2025 — a roughly 36-fold increase.

CDW, which holds the city's only contracts specifically designated for Chromebooks, was renewed without competitive bidding.

City records show about $310 million has actually been spent so far under that contract.

The spending has only continued to grow. Last year, the city announced a separate $327 million initiative to distribute 350,000 LTE-connected Chromebooks, including roughly $200 million for T-Mobile cellular service to ensure students could connect even without home internet.

According to data, only a fraction of the LTE-enabled devices purchased reached students.

And Chromebooks aren't the only tech deal.

The city has a $626M contract with Apple to grant iPads to students that was revealed back in 2020.

At the time, the DOE claimed to have paid Apple a discounted rate for devices — but it still came to $478.95 per iPad and case and was slammed as a waste of time and money.

AI over imperative skills

This enormous spending comes as English Language Arts and Math proficiency is falling across the board in NYC.

In fact, in 2025, the city lowered the proficiency bar in state tests — meaning while the results technically showed improvement, the standards they were reaching did not.

And even then, more than 40% of city kids failed the math and reading exams.

For some, like Principal Melessa Avery of PS 273, a veteran educator who heads up the Brooklyn-based elementary school serving approximately 300 children, many of whom are financially insecure, the school-issued devices are a "second teacher."

"Kids are riding trains and buses, and they can learn," the Brooklyn principal told The Post.

"Anything that they misunderstood during actual live teachings, they can go on these devices and learn," she added.

For families without reliable internet or home computers, the devices have become indispensable.

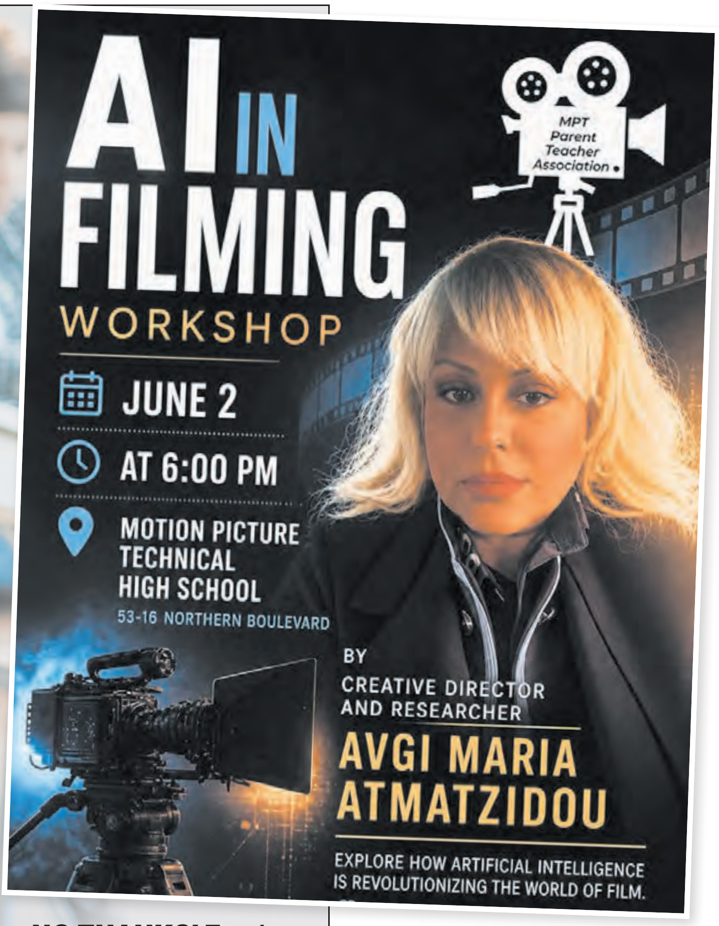
But even with the benefits, PS 273's principal told The Post that access to technology doesn't necessarily lead to accelerated learning.

"I wrote to the provost of the state aid department, and I explained to him my concerns about the devices and the technology," Avery said.

"These babies are 8 years old, and you have them writing essays, thinking — on a computer. That is a no-no."

She worries that without being

BACKLASH TO AI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EXPLORE HOW ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS REVOLUTIONIZING THE WORLD OF FILM.

NO THANKS! Teachers and parents are concerned that AI in the classroom is hindering learning. Even students largely rejected an AI workshop at a Queens high school.

taught handwriting, or to organize their thoughts on paper, it is setting students back.

She tries to use devices only in short intervals to avoid “flooding” young students with technology.

“AI for an elementary school student would be kind of like saying, ‘Here’s a cup of alcohol,’ ” she said.

Many teachers told The Post that even though the school devices are blocked from apps like Google Gemini, AI programs are baked into search engines.

Google Lens is still available, and other programs are automatically loaded despite security preferences, making it much harder to police the classroom in everything from behavior to learning.

Aixa Rodriguez, who teaches many students for whom English is a second language, sees students defaulting to AI apps like ChatGPT and Gemini — either on personal devices or school-issued ones — to quickly complete work, often bypassing critical thinking.

“You’re supposed to generate your own idea. You’re not supposed to put it in Gemini and get everything out,” she said.

“I have kids who write with words that I know are not theirs.”

She worries that students are skipping essential reading and analysis skills in favor of AI.

‘Totally destructive’

Both anecdotal and reported data have shown increased use of digital learning tools, and AI has contributed to regressions in students’ development and learning.

Janice Torres, a parent coordinator and PTA board member at PS 273, noted an increase in children entering school with dexterity and literacy issues coinciding with AI use.

“We’re seeing a spike in speech development delays because of the iPads and the parents, and here’s some Coco Melon for a few hours while I cook, and then that’s that lower engagement,” Torres told The Post.

A middle school math teacher in Brooklyn who wanted to remain anonymous told The Post that they have started to remove Chromebooks and devices during class, as children were falling behind and not paying attention.

“It breaks my heart for this generation,” they said of the proliferation of computer-based learning.

In their classroom, they shifted the focus back to handwritten problem-solving and saw immediate improvement.

Longtime education advocate Leonie Haimson says the lack of transparency around AI is as concerning as the technology itself, with parents reporting that Gemini has interrupted students during reading and math assignments by offering assistance.

“What people have told me is that Gemini pops in and says, ‘Can I help you?’ ” Haimson said. “That is totally destructive of kids’ ability to learn the skills they need to succeed in life.”

“There are no peer-reviewed studies showing AI has a positive impact on learning,” she adds. “Many studies show the opposite.”

When it comes to older students, AI is sometimes flat-out rejected.

When Motion Picture Technical High School’s Parent-Teacher Association hosted an after-school workshop this spring on how artificial intelligence could transform filmmaking, it was led by a paid AI consultant hired by the school’s principal.

Students quickly took to Instagram, blasting what they saw as the hypocrisy of a film school encouraging technology they feared could replace the very jobs and creative skills they were being trained for.

“wdym youre gonna promote something that is gonna kill the industry you’re teaching children to work in,” one student commented on Instagram. “What is the point of a film school then if you’re just gonna push out the idea of a computer?”

DOE’s influence

During the presentation, the consultant showed AI-generated deepfake videos of the principal.

“It creeped everybody out,” Rodriguez told The Post.

Rodriguez noted the hypocrisy of schools, which often lack the basic resources to teach students to think independently, spending unnecessarily on AI consultants.

“You don’t have a librarian in the building,” she said. “We need librarians who can help kids research properly.”

“We don’t know what is going on with these consultants, what their qualifications are, if they’re just friends of the principal. That could have been the salary of a librarian.”

Education advocate Haimson also believes the city has far more control over AI than officials acknowledge.

“The DOE has incredible influence and power over the school system,” she said. “They can reject the use of AI if they want to.”

She also notes they have dodged questions about exactly how many devices have AI installed — and at a city council hearing this week delayed releasing comprehensive AI guidelines for schools.

“At the hearing, DoE officials offered no timeline when the revised AI guidelines would be ready and no proposals as to how their privacy vetting would be improved, despite the findings of the scathing Comptroller audit,” Haimson told The Post.

One New York City parent told The Post that her second-grade daughter is working on an AI project, programming a story, on her class-issued device.

At the same time, tracking exactly how much the city spends on Chromebooks — and for what technology — has also become increasingly difficult.

Support, not replace

According to a recent report by the City Comptroller, the newest Chromebook purchases are made through broader IT master agreements that don’t identify specific products or the breakdown of vendors on individual delivery orders.

The Department of Education defended its approach, saying student access to AI tools is tightly controlled and intended to supplement classroom learning rather than replace it.

“Earlier this year, New York City Public Schools took initial steps to put guardrails in place while developing student AI guidance in partnership with families, educators and communities,” a DOE spokesperson said.

According to the department, Google’s Gemini platform is disabled by default for students and is currently available to high schools participating in a pilot program at the request of individual principals.

Officials said Google Lens and Google’s separate AI Mode have also been disabled for students.

The DOE acknowledged reports that Gemini could automatically reinstall after being removed and said this concern contributed to the decision to block AI Mode for students.

Officials said the pilot is intended to help evaluate the technology before broader guidance is finalized and argued that AI can serve as “a thought partner for students and staff” when used responsibly.

“There’s no tool that can replace the role of a teacher,” the spokesperson said, adding that classroom technology is meant to supplement student learning both in and out of school.

Principal Avery doesn’t believe technology is going away, nor does she think it should.

But as schools race to adopt artificial intelligence, she believes educators still have a responsibility to protect the fundamentals.

“It’s a Catch-22,” she said. “In moderation, especially for my babies.”

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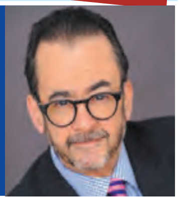

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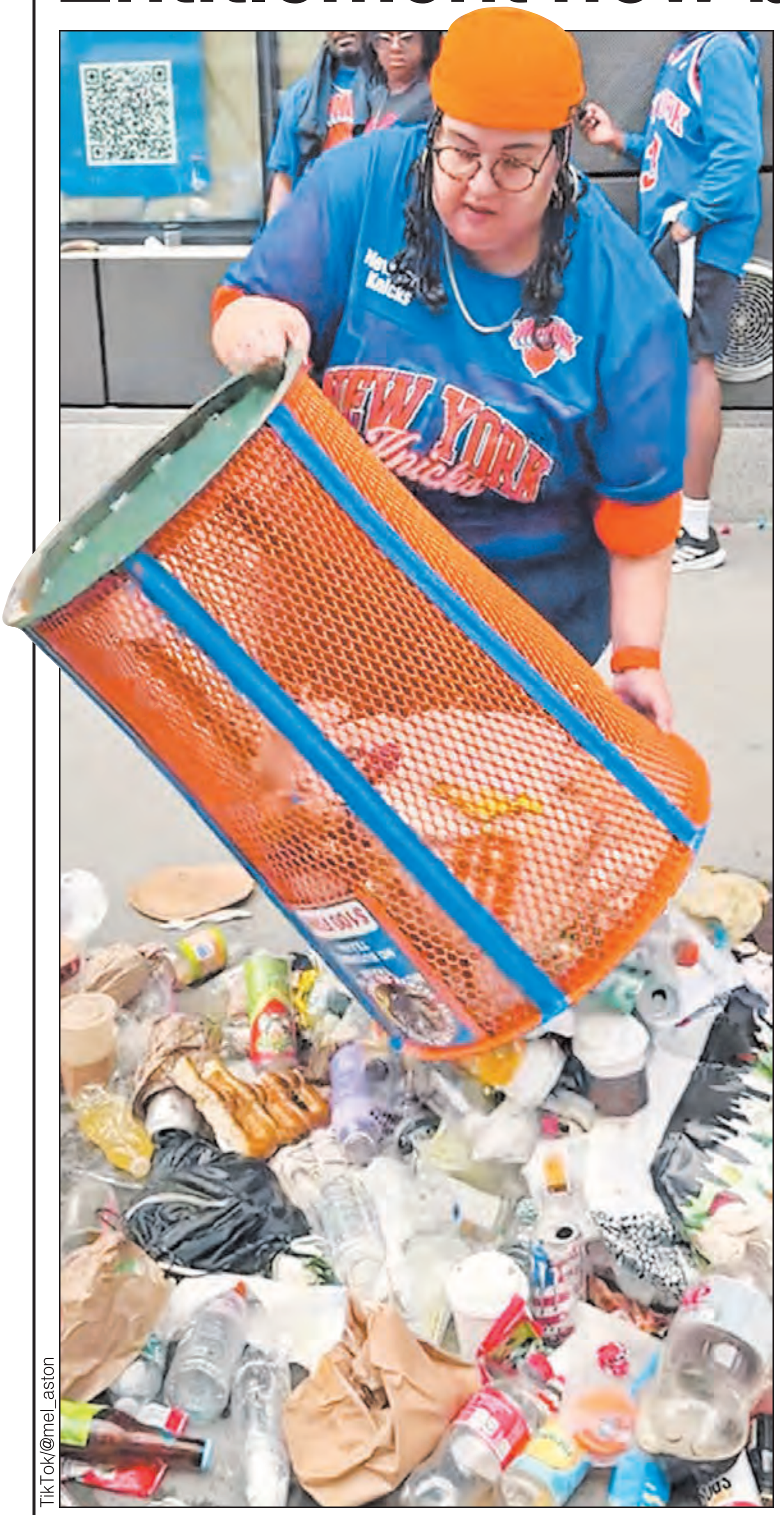
Entitlement now baked into moral framework



TikTok/@mel_aston

BIN NICE KNOWIN' YA: Angie Baez — seen emptying a Knicks-colored trash bin during the championship parade festivities last week — was fired from her DEI role at JPMorgan Chase after the stunt.

LYDIA MOYNIHAN

Fan trash grab a DEI treasure

THE gross, entitled actions of Angie Baez, the woman who dumped garbage all over the sidewalk and stole a Knicks trash can this week, exposes the deep flaws within the DEI movement of which she was a part.

Báez, who was fired from her DOI role (which is what they call it) at JPMorgan Chase, built her career around the idea that corporate power and capitalism — not individuals — are to blame for the ills and injustices in the world. And with her trash can stunt, we saw that worldview in action.

When I first saw the video this weekend, the most shocking thing about it wasn't that she littered and stole — it was that she did it so brazenly.

At that point we had no idea of her background or career, but it struck me how there was no sneaking around under cover of night, no embarrassment about desecrating the sidewalk or fear of facing consequences.

And, surprisingly, no sense her actions would conflict with her professional identity, which she claims is built around community, equity and how "making a positive impact shines through in every aspect of her work," according to a bio.

Hard to see how pouring trash all over the street could ever be considered a "positive impact."

Permanent victim

Later, Baez sat smiling on the subway with her trash can trophy beside her — unconcerned about the sanitation worker stuck cleaning up the mess she made.

While most people were baffled how she could reconcile such disgusting behavior with her effort to "lead the way towards a more inclusive and equitable future," as her bio puts it, it actually isn't at odds with her work.

Abdicating personal responsibility is baked into the moral framework of the institutionalized DEI Baez has spent her career promoting — at Saks Fifth Avenue, The Infatuation and most recently JPMorgan Chase.

In the DEI moral hierarchy people are no longer judged primarily by what they do, but by where they sit in the oppression pyramid. Under this system, victimhood, grievances and being oppressed or marginalized are considered attributes, while it is always a nebulous "system" — run by elites — that is to blame.

The problem is structural racism, systemic bigotry, widespread patriarchy. But the movement is so focused on blaming every failure as systemic, it directs all blame outward rather than inward.

Why improve your own behavior if "the system" is rigged and you're a permanent victim of structural inequity? Why respect public property if property itself is a tool of the "oppressing class?"

This DEI mindset has also infiltrated Democrat politics. Campaign-finance records show Baez gave a donation to Cynthia Nixon, the former "Sex and the City" star former gubernatorial candidate and progressive celebrity activist who has since backed Zohran Mamdani.

Nixon's politics are the usual progressive cocktail — tax the rich, make billionaires pay, expand government, redistribute money, fix the system.

Combat social decay

But her policies, like DEI, attack the system while asking nothing of the individual. Tax someone else's money, demand the government hand out free healthcare and change the system, but never blame yourself.

Meanwhile, the conservative answer to social decay has always been less glamorous, but far more effective.

As Voltaire said in response to society's problems, "We must cultivate our garden."

Conservatives argue we should focus on our own spheres of sovereignty: help the people around you, donate to the causes you believe in, do what you can in your community.

While I'm doubtful banks will be hiring directors of personal responsibility anytime soon, they would be a far better use of resources than trash can-stealing DEI officers.

Vengeance is mine, sayeth rev

A Louisiana pastor is accused of attacking his neighbor, who allegedly hurled expletives and threatened to rape and kill the pastor's wife as the pair brawled across from the church.

Tony Spell, the 48-year-old pastor of the Life Tabernacle Church in Baton Rouge, La., was arrested on battery charges in Tuesday's beating of his neighbor's 20-year-old son, according to WBRZ-TV.

Spell was changing the battery of his church's buses when he was allegedly abused from across the road.

"He said, 'Tony, I'm going to rape your wife, I'm going to rape all your grandchildren, and the next time you go out of town, I'm going to kill them,' " Spell said Wednesday.

Spell said he had a "duty and obligation" to protect his family. "Number one, I'm a husband, number two, I'm a father, and number three, I'm a pastor who shepherds his flock," he said. "I will not allow a man to murder my children."

Spell allegedly struck the victim eight times before wrestling him to the ground, where he threw another 27 punches.

Chris Bradford

Influencer kid tragedy

A parenting influencer's 2-year-old daughter drowned in his swimming pool on Father's Day.

"I lost my daughter," Jamal Morton, 33, told his 2.6 million followers on Instagram in a heartbreaking tribute to Rose, whom he called "the best daughter a father could ever ask for."

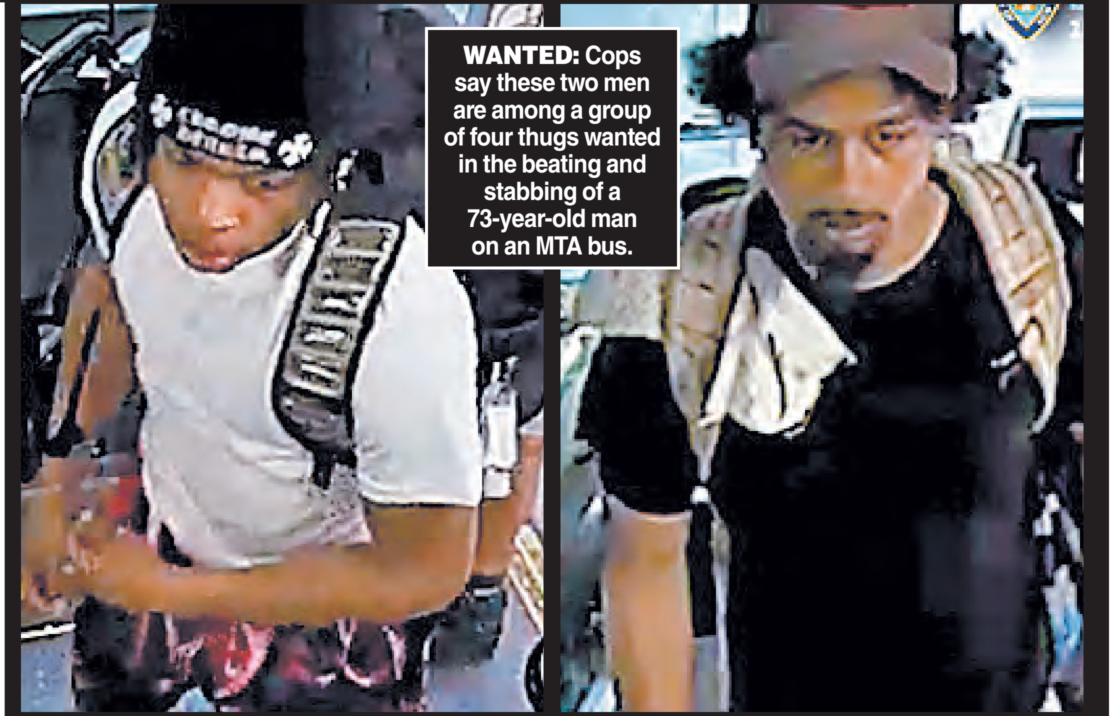
"She thought she was a big girl and could swim all by herself. She walked out of the house and got into the pool where she drowned," he said.

"Losing a child is a pain I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy," he said in the heartbreaking post where he shared a montage of snaps. The authorities did not comment.

Chris Bradford

Elder stabbed for aiding preg woman

BUS BRUTES VS. SAMARITAN



WANTED: Cops say these two men are among a group of four thugs wanted in the beating and stabbing of a 73-year-old man on an MTA bus.

DCPI (2)

By XAVIER SERRANO,
JOE MARINO
and AMANDA WOODS

An elderly good Samaritan was beaten and stabbed on board an MTA bus when he confronted a bully for pushing past a pregnant passenger — saying he felt compelled to step in because “there’s no respect for women on the bus.”

Robert Hunter, 73, was on his way back from grocery shopping in Harlem at around 6:30 p.m. on June 5 when he said four brutes attacked him as the bus reached Broadway and West 92nd Street on the Upper West Side — all because he defended the woman.

“It was a pregnant girl on the bus; she . . . had a baby carriage, and she didn’t want to sit down,” Hunter told The Post by phone Thursday. “She’s letting everybody else sit down. So a guy got on the bus and pushed by her, squeezing by, hitting the lady’s stomach, you know?”

“So all I said was, ‘You know the lady’s pregnant, show her some respect,’ ” Hunter recalled.

Was ‘jumped by 4’

But the intervention only made Hunter the new target of the pusher and three buddies on board the M104, he said.

“Mind your f--king business,” the brutes told him, according to law enforcement sources.

“[Another] guy came out from the back out of nowhere,” Hunter said. “You know, he said something to me, one thing led to another, [and] we wind up scrapping it [out] on the bus.”

“One hit me from behind,” he added. “I thought it was one, but it was three on me from behind and the bus driver’s saying ‘It’s four guys on you.’ ”

The suspects punched Hunter in the head and midsection before brandishing a knife and stabbing him in the left shoulder, cops said.

He was taken by EMS to Mount Sinai Morningside Hospital, where he was listed in stable condition.

“They took me in ’cause my arm was full of blood,” the septuagenarian said. “I didn’t feel it, feel the blood, you know.”

“But I’m all right, I ain’t got no black eye,” he added. “He just stabbed me in the shoulder with something, took three stitches, so you know, it wasn’t that serious.”

Doing the right thing

Meanwhile, Hunter said his family and friends have urged him to avoid traveling by bus since the attack.

“They’re like, ‘Take your car from now on, we can’t afford to let nothing happen to you,’ and this and that,” he said.

But Hunter said he knows that what he did was right, even though he took a beating for it.

“I try to look out ’cause if that was my daughter . . . [if] she was pregnant and someone was pushing her around, and you know, there’s no respect for women on the bus,” he said.

The NYPD released photos (above) Wednesday of two suspects.

17 hit by driver in Mexico

At least 17 Mexican soccer fans were injured when a driver allegedly rammed through a crowded street of revelers celebrating the nation’s World Cup win in Cabo San Lucas on Wednesday night.

The unidentified driver was driving through Lázaro Cárdenas Boulevard in the Baja California Sur beach town when they were met by the large crowd that had taken over the street just after 9 p.m., Cabo San Lucas officials said.

Rowdy fans allegedly surrounded the driver and his car before touching and climbing on the vehicle, officials said.

The driver, inside a black sedan, is accused of “suddenly accelerating forward” into the mob that was blocking the roadway, striking multiple people, according to video posted online.

At least 17 people, including the driver, were transported to various hospitals in the area for their injuries.

Their conditions were not immediately revealed.

The driver was detained at the scene and brought to a hospital in police custody for his injuries, officials said.

The Baja California Sur Attorney General’s Office said it had opened an investigation. *Nicholas McEntyre*

Russian war book crooks

A vast state library in Moscow has so far taken 18,000 “Russophobic” books from Russian-controlled areas of Ukraine and placed them in a special repository, its director said on Thursday.

Vadim Duda, head of the Russian State Library, said the books had been removed from libraries in areas captured by Russia in the eastern Donbas region and other parts of Ukraine, and were being stored for “scholarly and research purposes”.

Ukraine accuses Russia of trying to eradicate its culture and identity in the ongoing war. *Reuters*

Pol’s shaky defense in ‘cop assault’

Lawyers for US Rep. LaMonica McIver (D-NJ) claimed she was protected by free speech when she was arrested for allegedly assaulting cops at an anti-ICE protest — and “she wouldn’t have drawn a flagrant foul in the Knicks-Spurs game” for the move anyway.

The NJ congresswoman is facing up to 17 years behind bars for the May 2025 tussle outside Garden State ICE facility Delaney Hall, in which she allegedly “slammed” her forearm into an agent and tried to grab him as Newark Mayor Ras Baraka was arrested on a since-dropped trespassing charge.

McIver and her lawyers were in a federal appeals court in Delaware Wednesday arguing the case should be tossed because she’s protected by free speech and was being politically targeted by the Trump administration, according to a report by Politico.

The rep’s defense attorney Paul Fishman argued before that the charges should be dismissed because members of Congress benefit from immunity similar to the immunity that police officers have.

“She wouldn’t have drawn a flagrant foul in the Knicks-Spurs game,” the lawyer argued, implying the force she used didn’t rise to a criminal level. *Priscilla DeGregory*

NEW YORK POST
Page Six
METRO EDITION
‘WHACKS’ OF CONGRESS
Dem rep. charged with felony ‘slammed’ Newark immigration agents: feds

‘WHACK’O: Rep. LaMonica McIver faces charges.

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Lawfare Slap

Supremes to lower courts: Stay in your lane

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IMMIGRANT
RIGHTS ARE

Getty Images

Fruitless: Protesters howled, but immigration law is on Trump's side.

THIS Supreme Court term, now in its final few days, has been focused above all on executive power. President Trump has pushed the envelope of his authority, and the court has generally let him do so — except, as in the tariffs case, when he treads on clear congressional prerogatives.

And even though the justices have yet to rule on the biggest presidential-power cases on their docket — birthright citizenship and the removal of the heads of "independent" agencies — three immigration rulings this week showed their overriding emphasis on robust executive power to counteract left-wing lawfare.

On Tuesday, in Blanche v. Lau, the court found that the Immigration and Nationality Act doesn't require a border officer to admit a lawful permanent resident who was charged with a crime into the country. Instead such a person can be "paroled," which suspends his or her green card and allows for more expeditious deportation if convicted.

On Thursday, the court in Mullin v. Al Otro Lado found that an alien standing in Mexico does not "arrive in the United States" by attempting, and failing, to set foot in this country. In other words, the justices ratified the common-sense understanding that someone "arrives" here only when he is actually inside the country's borders.

That's important, because the INA gives the right to apply for asylum only to aliens who are in the country — a requirement that lower-court judges were looking to thwart.

Finally, in Mullin v. Doe (consolidated with Trump v. Miot), the court found that the judicial system lacks the authority to review procedural claims against ending Temporary Protected Status for Syrians and Haitians. That's because the text of the INA puts the designation or termination of TPS status wholly within the discretion of the president and his appointees.

Moreover, the justices ruled that the plaintiffs' constitutional claim — that Trump's move to sunset TPS was impermissibly race-based — is weak. Indeed, wrote Justice Samuel Alito in his majority opinion, the plaintiffs' posture "undermines [their] equal protection claim by offering a strong, race-neutral explanation for Haiti's termination: namely, that the current administration, which has terminated every TPS designation that has come up for renewal, simply opposes the TPS program."

Each of these cases was decided 6-3, with the Republican-appointed justices in the majority. So in every case, the Democratic-appointed justices proved unwilling to defer to executive determinations, even those made under the discretion outlined in the INA's text.

Each time, they supported legal challenges that are actually policy disagreements — disputes over what the rules should be regarding who can enter the country, how they do so, for how long and for what purpose.

The Mullin v. Doe decision in particular was a clear scolding of that lawfare project. Lower courts have repeatedly blocked TPS terminations in a way that upended executive prerogatives, acting as a one-way ratchet for liberalized immigration policies.

"Although designed to afford 'temporary' relief," Alito noted, "TPS designations in practice have often lasted for decades." That's why the Supremes took the cases before the DC and Second Circuits could rule on the merits — as a dynamic response to district courts' judicial resistance to what they consider to be the administration's "anti-immigrant agenda."

But it's not up to courts to make immigration determinations. Whether you like what this or any other administration does in the immigration space, Congress has legislated, for good or ill, in a way that gives expansive power to the executive branch here.

On this point, Justice Alito quoted the late DC Circuit Judge Laurence Silberman, who was in turn quoting the important 1950 Supreme Court case United States v. Shaughnessy: "Control of the country's policy toward aliens is inherent in the executive power to control the foreign affairs of the nation." So Mullin v. Doe strengthens the executive and streamlines its ability to conduct policy, not least in being able to make "temporary" humanitarian relief actually temporary.

Next week, as it issues this session's last few rulings, the court is likely to allow the president to remove the heads of agencies — because he's the head of the executive branch. Yet it's also likely to prevent him from unilaterally changing birthright citizenship, whatever the constitutional or policy merits of challenges to that longstanding rule.

Neither of these moves will be a surprise: The first, because executive power is broad over executive-branch operations and the discretion that Congress has legislated; the second, because executive power is far more narrow when it comes to actually changing the law.

Ilya Shapiro is director of constitutional studies at the Manhattan Institute.

THE WEEK IN WHOPPERS

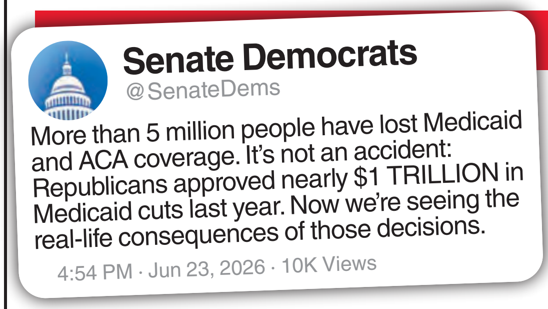
A diary of disinformation and the delusional

THIS CHARGE

> **An Al Jazeera journalist, Ahmed Wishah . . . was killed this past Saturday by an Israeli strike.**
>
> **—Mayor Mamdani, Monday**

We say: As part of his case for calling AIPAC, which promotes US-Israeli ties, a "monster," Hizzoner suggested Israel had killed an innocent journalist. Yet evidence shows Wishah was part of Hamas' military wing and so a threat to Israeli troops and civilians; Israel says he helped plan recent sniper attacks and worked with his brother, a senior Hamas weapons-production operative. But Mamdani thinks *AIPAC* is a monster?

THIS TWEET



Senate Democrats
@SenateDems

More than 5 million people have lost Medicaid and ACA coverage. It's not an accident: Republicans approved nearly $1 TRILLION in Medicaid cuts last year. Now we're seeing the real-life consequences of those decisions.

4:54 PM · Jun 23, 2026 · 10K Views

We say: The 5 million people Democrats cite (less than 5% of recipients) cover the past 12 months — i.e., since *before* many of the Republican cuts even went into effect. Oh, and those cuts are based on rules meant to purge fraudsters, illegal immigrants and healthy people unwilling to seek even part-time work. Indeed, many of these people already have, or are switching to, other insurance, such as from an employer. Dems' see-no-fraud-waste-or-abuse approach is a big reason why Medicaid outlays keep soaring.

THIS DEEP THOUGHT

> **It is so important that we not only have hope, but that we understand that that should be a verb.**
>
> **—Kamala Harris, June 19**

We say: Step aside, MAGA. Kama-la-la-ding-dong may be about to launch a new political movement: MHAV — Make Hope a Verb. Yes, we know: It *already* is. Harris' bizarre attention to this matter shows why Republicans would love to see Democrats nominate her for president again.

THIS SMEAR

> **If you want to blame anybody [for NY antisemitism] . . . blame Benjamin Netanyahu.**
>
> **—MS NOW's Joe Scarborough, Wednesday**

We say: Er, how about blaming . . . *the antisemites?* Morning Joe's bid to pin Jew-hatred on Bibi essentially amounts to: Jews *deserve* the world's hostility because Israel's leader insists on his country defending itself from attacks. Scarborough's perverse rationalization can only serve to enflame antisemitism. If he wants to blame someone besides the haters, he should start by looking in the mirror.

— Compiled by The Post Editorial Board

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Sell Your Wins, Don

Since returning to the White House, President Trump has racked up win after win; it's vital that he and his team focus on parading those triumphs as the November elections approach. And don't get caught up in endless distractions.

Yes, Trump needs to keep a close eye on the Iran talks and surrounding issues: The White House effort to get key GOP lawmakers to reverse their votes on a war-powers bill that would've undermined US negotiators was important work.

But it's also vital to build public support for Trump and Republicans generally, and that requires reminding Americans of the dramatic turnaround the nation has seen on so many fronts since Trump returned:

- The economy has remained healthy, with the financial markets up solidly. Inflation, though 4.2% last month, has averaged less than 3% since January 2025 — vs. about 5% under President Joe Biden.
- Trump's tax cuts have saved average households as much as $1,600 a year; deregulating energy is saving thousands more.
- Trump shut the door tight on illegal migrants, ending the nationwide crisis Biden ignited. (On Thursday, he chalked up two big immigration-related wins at the Supreme Court.)
- The prez has taken big steps to reform universities and purge toxic DEI agendas.
- His "Trump Accounts" for kids are a *yuge* long-term game-changer, providing life-long lessons on the value of saving.
- Crime has fallen dramatically.

These are terrific triumphs the prez ought to keep boasting about — not burning energy and attention on side issues.

Focus, too, on the future: Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent says economic growth can get back to 3% within months — while Democrats offer no more ideas for getting the US booming again than they did in the stagnant Biden years.

That deserves far more attention than the impossible hope of passing the SAVE America Act, however much the president believes in it. Demanding what he'll never get has Trump hamstringing himself by refusing to sign a bipartisan housing bill and holding up key nominations. He's even been sparring with critics over algae in the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool.

Sorry, that won't help Republicans hold the House and Senate in November.

Yet the wins that the prez and Republicans have racked up *will* earn votes. Or, rather, will earn them *if* the White House focuses on reminding voters about all Trump and the GOP Congress have achieved for regular Americans.

Antifa and Its Enablers

The speedy trial, conviction and justifiably harsh sentencing of a loathsome squad of Antifa terrorists for their armed attack on a Texas ICE facility is a model for how the justice system *should* be handling these goons nationwide — if politics didn't corrupt law enforcement in liberal areas.

The federal courts came down hard on the anarchists who attacked the Prairieland detention center last July 4, sentencing the leader — who shot a responding police officer in the neck — to 100 years in prison and accomplices to from 30 to 70 years.

This case was the first time that the feds successfully brought terrorism charges against these far-lefties who openly agitate for the violent overthrow of the United States — but it won't be the last.

Crucially, the Texas attack was met by local officers, who apprehended the perps in a fine show of cross-jurisdictional cooperation. Don't count on that in sanctuary cities, where laws prohibit cops from working with the feds on ICE-related matters, and politicians even order police to stay away as the radicals riot.

Nor are all federal judges sure to match the Texas jurists' support for law and order. Senate rules grant members a virtual veto over judicial nominees in their home states, so district courts in Blue America are much more likely to assume that leftist anti-government terrorists have their hearts in the right place, and even to buy the idea that, since they call themselves "antifascists," anyone opposing them must *be* a fascist.

Watch how judges in Minnesota handle the conspiracy case against 15 anti-ICE anarchists who sought to "impede or injure" federal officers in Minneapolis last winter.

Domestic terrorists should be treated *at least* as harshly as criminal conspiracies like the Mafia, but Democrats are now all too often blinded by ideology to understand that it doesn't matter what cause the violent embrace: They're still menaces to society.

Good Riddance, Tucker

Crank conspiracist Tucker Carlson has decided to exit the Republican Party, and the only sensible response is, "Don't let the door hit you on the way out."

He has embraced an eccentric, toxic agenda: Mysteriously pro-Vladimir Putin, obsessively anti-Israel, weirdly ashamed of America.

"If I'm out, then I think a lot of other people are out, too," he boasts — a claim as bizarre as his praise for Qatar.

Carlson says he feels sorry for his old friend Vice President JD Vance, "stuck" serving under President Trump. No, pity Vance for his prolonged efforts to woo Tucker back to reality.

In March, Carlson claimed the CIA read his texts with Iran in an effort to "frame" him as foreign agent. He's even wondered if Trump could "be the Antichrist."

So Republicans can happily cheer his exit — while hoping he gets the professional help he so plainly needs.

letters@nypost.com

Banning Carriage Horses Is the True Animal Cruelty

THE ISSUE: Pressure for New York City to ban horse carriages after the death of a teen tourist.

•It was sad that a young man died in a horse-carriage accident recently, but that was a freak accident that doesn't justify a ban ("Rein & suffering," June 23).

By that logic, we should ban bicycles, cars and airplanes, which are many times more risky than a horse-carriage ride. The horses that work in the horse-carriage industry are totally fine, and that is in no way animal cruelty.

Ronald Meltzer
Manhattan

•The track record for horse-carriage safety is astounding. A sick horse gave rise to the movement to shut this iconic fixture down. Now, after the recent death of one horse and the tragic death of a tourist, the outcry returns.

Shouldn't all concerned need to hear from experts before condemning this industry with their untrue charges? **Dianne Stillman**
Brooklyn

•Activists have been pushing for the passage of Ryder's Law to ban carriage horses for the years. Yet it's named after the horse Ryder — who didn't die from his collapse on the street. He got up, was retired and euthanized months later after being diagnosed with cancer. His owner-driver, was also acquitted of animal cruelty.

It seems no one bothered to find out the facts.

Olga Humphrey
Manhattan

Carriage horses in NYC

•I'm a carriage driver in Georgia, and every day I get the privilege of working alongside horses that I love with all my heart. They aren't machines. They are family. Draft horses were bred to work alongside people. If their every work opportunity disappears, what happens to these horses? I'm not asking anyone to ignore animal welfare. I'm asking people to look deeper.

Talk to the people who spend every day caring for these horses before deciding what their future should be.

Carrie Daugherty
Savannah, Ga.

•The recent, tragic horse-carriage accident was, thankfully, a very rare incident. For those who want the carriages banned: Where do you think the horses will go? To a pasture where they can graze and live happily ever after? Nope, they could be slaughtered. PETA and all animal activists: Do your research before jumping in and rallying to euthanize these beautiful creatures.

Connie Ellison
Hobe Sound, Fla.

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

Fauci's COVID-Coverup Fail

THE ISSUE: New declassified documents suggesting Anthony Fauci covered up the origins of COVID-19.

•Former National Intelligence Director Tulsi Gabbard's farewell was a brave attempt to expose Anthony Fauci, whose actions may have led to a pandemic that killed hundreds of thousands and put the health of millions in jeopardy ("Fauci coverup ran very 'deep,'" Miranda Devine, June 22).

Sen. Rand Paul continues to go after Fauci ferociously. Others in power would do well to follow his lead. The American public deserves the truth after what we have been put through. **Betsy Flor**
Putnam Valley

•If there ever was a question whether a deep state operates independently of our president, Miranda Devine answers that with a bone-chilling "yes!"

The piece plays out like a John Le Carré thriller, except Tulsi Gabbard's declassified documents showing links between Fauci, government officials and gain-of-function research at the Wuhan lab are real, and millions of humans died.

Now, the deep state's media is painting Gabbard as a nut case, all because she released the documents. These are plots to hide the truth.

Donathan Salkaln
Chelsea

•Wouldn't multiple state attorneys general bringing wrongful-death civil action suits against Fauci for the rest of his pretentious life be a fitting finale for all the harm he caused? **Arnold Mazur**
Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

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Agenda of Anxiety

Left's big win is a shallow one

ALICIA NIEVES

CELEBRANTS at a candidate's election-night party typically provide a snapshot of their core constituency. On Tuesday, overwhelmingly white, young, college-educated New York City transplants gathered in East Williamsburg and Harlem to cheer the Democratic primary victories of Democratic Socialists Claire Valdez and Darializa Avila Chevalier.

Those crowds tell an important story: What appears to be a broad leftist insurgency is, in reality, a more limited political movement — one powered by a narrow demographic base that only exists in meaningful numbers in a handful of neighborhoods across a few of America's largest cities.

The precinct returns from these races reveal the restricted conditions under which the DSA can currently succeed. In Manhattan's District 13, Avila Chevalier performed strongest in precincts with younger residents, higher incomes and larger shares of college-educated voters. In District 7, Valdez's largest margins came from East Williamsburg, Greenpoint and Ridgewood, a rapidly gentrifying area increasingly filled with young NYC newcomers.

Far from a revolutionary movement of the urban working class, the DSA's latest victories expose it as mainly a political vehicle for college-educated urban transplants to repackage their own material anxieties into a narrative of broader social and class struggle.

Valdez and Avila Chevalier personally embody the DSA constituency. Both candidates share remarkably similar biographies: suburban-raised and college-educated, arriving in New York in their late teens and early 20s to pursue elite-coded education and professions.

In the case of Valdez, her ambition was to become a professional artist; in the case of Avila Chevalier, a college professor. For both candidates, the waning of those original career ambitions in their late 20s appears to have coincided with their deeper involvement in left-wing activism — and ultimately their recruitment as political candidates.

Unable to become a commercially successful artist, Valdez took a position as a program assistant at Columbia University, where she became active in the union representing other university desk staff. And for Avila Chevalier, the demands of a PhD program at the CUNY Graduate Center seem to have left plenty of time for the thirty-something doctoral student to return to her alma mater Columbia University and participate extensively in its anti-Israel encampments and protests.

ABOLISH ICE
ALL OUT for the DREAM TEAM
FUND BABIES NOT BOMBS
ALL OUT

Getty Images

Diversity dearth: Valdez' political base is stacked with young gentrifiers.

Once the true social composition of the DSA base is understood, its politics appear less revolutionary. They instead resemble a practical, if highly idealistic and naïve, political program tailored to the economic anxieties of urban transplant Millennials and Gen Zers.

Living predominantly in single-person households and often possessing educational credentials with relatively modest earning power, they face extraordinary housing costs, stagnant earnings relative to living expenses, heavy student debt, and a growing frustration that the urban lifestyle they believed their educations would earn can no longer be sustained. Unsurprisingly, they're attracted to policies centered on housing affordability, tenants' rights, student debt relief, white-collar union organizing and an expanded welfare state as a means of making life in expensive cities more manageable.

The DSA can exercise political power only where this demographic exists in critical mass — and where it doesn't, the movement offers a narrow pathway to Democratic-primary victory. The failed effort to unseat Rep. Ritchie Torres illustrates the point: Despite intense leftist opposition to Torres over his staunch support for Israel, the movement lacked a large enough base of young suburban transplants — that is, gentrifiers — in his Bronx district to turn DSA frustrations into a successful electoral challenge.

While the DSA's electoral power remains constrained by specific demographic prerequisites, that doesn't mean this dangerous movement should be ignored. Its rise demonstrates how small, highly organized factions can capture low-turnout primaries and exercise political influence well beyond their numbers, as the old urban Democratic machines lose their capacity to centrally manage the party's local affairs.

But the same conditions that enabled the DSA's rise could empower other movements as well. If a relatively small bloc of urban transplants can organize itself into political power, there's no reason another coalition can't do the same.

There remains a real opportunity for authentic candidates rooted in these districts — people who built businesses there, raised families there and meaningfully connect to their neighbors — to offer voters a different vision than one crafted by leftist NGO staffers and idealistic college-educated transplants.

The lesson of DSA's election victory is not that America's cities have suddenly become socialist: It's that urban politics are now open to whoever is willing to organize.

Alicia Nieves is a columnist for UnHerd.

DEMS' MISRULE PAVED THE DSA'S WAY

MICHAEL BENJAMIN

'THE chickens are coming home to roost," one young Democratic operative ruefully told me Wednesday, as we surveyed the wreckage after a raft of far-left House candidates won stunning primary-night victories. Tuesday's Democratic Socialist romp can't be blamed on outside factors like inflation or Israel or the national party's mad obsession with countering President Trump's every move.

No, it's the result of 15 years of New York Democrats' single-party rule — and the monstrous ego of Andrew Cuomo. The former governor's utterly narcissistic presidential ambitions launched New York down a progressive road to perdition.

Starting with relatively mild policies like marriage equality, Cuomo made concession after concession to thwart leftist challengers — from authorizing "bail reforms" that released hordes of repeat offenders, to onerous climate laws that hiked utility bills. Meanwhile, the state Democratic Party developed sclerosis as establishment leaders grew lazy, fat, comfortable and corrupt.

The stunning 2018 defeat of Queens powerbroker Rep. Joe Crowley by lefty ex-waitress Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez should have clued them in to the Democratic Socialists of America's viral plot to remake Cuomo's party. But they let it slide — and even now, Democrats are demonstrating an alarming capitulation to political extremism.

Clueless Gov. Hochul was in Erie County on primary day, too busy dedicating the Buffalo Bills' new state-subsidized football stadium to help keep her downstate allies from getting their butts kicked by her bestie, Mayor Mamdani, and his DSA. Her out-of-touch naivety is typical of what passes for the party's leadership today.

Hochul spent the past six months cozying up to Mamdani and using the state budget — and her taxing authority — to bail out his massive deficit spending. The Buffalo Gal is not a left-wing radical, but something far worse: a craven politician whose only goal is getting safely re-elected without Mamdani & Co. mounting a challenge from her left flank.

"New York is no longer blue, it's red and green," a veteran Democratic consultant grumbled to me in disgust. Mission accomplished, Kathy.

Her primary-prevention strategy only cost regular Democrats *three* House seats, eight Assembly seats and four State senate seats, including the ouster of six incumbents.

Despite this bloodbath, one high-level local party leader told me optimistically that Democrats can "work together" with the DSA. Several other Dems said they think the party can negotiate an accommodation with the Israel-hating socialists.

Are they so deluded — or so terrified — that they'll pretend not to have heard the roomful of radicals' chants of "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" at the NYC-DSA victory party? Or shut their ears to the mob's "You're next!" shouts upon seeing House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries on the TV screen?

Listen up, establishment Democrats: Mamdani and the DSA want no part of your big tent. They want to burn it to the ground — preferably with you inside.

As an ex-Democratic lawmaker, I'm angry that party leaders think they can build a united front with these reds. The DSA isn't consensus-driven; it's steeped in an ideological warfare mindset where it's their way or the graveyard. Like the Soviet Union's kulaks a century ago, New York's Democratic moderates and liberals will be purged.

The shocking defenestration of Espaillat and Goldman will be used to bully surviving Dems into falling in line with the new DSA order — lest they, too, be taken out in the next election cycle.

New York Democrats can and must fight back. The worst thing they can do is succumb to the radicals inside their tent.

I believe a politics of resentment and scapegoating fueled the rise of Trump and his America First movement, and that something very similar is animating Mamdani and the DSA. Such divisiveness was anathema to the Democratic Party that drew me in 40 years ago.

It was obscene of Jeffries and other DC Dems to brush aside concerns about Mamdani and his socialist comrades and point to Trump as a bigger threat. The DSA's dangerous messaging on criminal justice, wealth redistribution, climate change and foreign policy will do this nation serious harm.

Democrats need new, nimble thinking to address these issues and thus reconnect to a distressed electorate. A rotten, corrupt establishment paved the way for Tuesday's disaster — one that will ripple far beyond city limits. Unless New York Democrats reverse course, and soon, voters will make Hochul pay for her cowardice and appeasement in November. As of now, this Democrat plans on joining them.

NEW YORK POST
YANKEES
PARTY DECK
TO JOIN OUR COMMUNITY!

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Charles W

Brent HEADRICK

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The Post Puzzle Page

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E₁ O₁ O₁ M₃ T₁ R₁ P₃ — RACK 1

A₁ I₁ O₁ M₃ L₁ X₈ C₃ — Triple Word Score — RACK 2

E₁ O₁ U₁ B₃ C₃ S₁ D₂ — 3rd Letter Double — RACK 3

A₁ O₁ Y₄ L₁ P₃ R₁ L₁ — RACK 4

PAR SCORE 185-195
BEST SCORE 239

FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

TODAY'S ANSWER

SCRABBLE GRAMS SOLUTION

P₃ R₁ O₁ M₃ O₁ T₁ E₁ — RACK 1 = 61
C₃ L₁ I₁ M₃ A₁ X₈ — RACK 2 = 51
S₁ U₁ B₃ C₃ O₁ D₂ E₁ — RACK 3 = 65
P₃ A₁ Y₄ R₁ O₁ L₁ L₁ — RACK 4 = 62
TOTAL 239

PAR SCORE 185-195

Directions: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 Letter words get 50 point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE players Dictionary, 4th Edition.

Bridge

North dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ K Q
♡ 10 9 6 3
◇ K Q J
♣ K J 7 2

WEST
♠ 6 5 4 3 2
♡ K 4
◇ 4 3
♣ 10 9 8 6

EAST
♠ None
♡ Q J 7 2
◇ A 6 5 2
♣ A Q 5 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A J 10 9 8 7
♡ A 8 5
◇ 10 9 8 7
♣ None

North	East	South	West
1 NT	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
All Pass			

Opening lead – ♣ 10

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As a veteran golfer, I know Murphy's Law applies on the course: Bunkers attract, fairways repel; the shortest distance between two points is a straight line that goes through a towering oak tree; and if you're having your best round ever and will collect on some bets, the game will be rained out.

Bad breaks happen at the bridge table also. At today's four spades, South ruffed East's queen of clubs and led a trump to dummy's king ... and East discarded. Annoyed, South drew all the trumps, pitching two hearts and a club from dummy. He had none left.

When South next led a diamond, East took the ace and led a heart. Declarer won and cashed two high diamonds in dummy, but he lost the last three tricks. Down one.

"A 5-0 trump break could happen only to me," declarer sighed.

South hit it out of bounds. On the trumps, he must unblock dummy's K-Q-J of diamonds. He forces out the ace of diamonds, wins East's heart return and takes the 9-8-7 of diamonds for 10 tricks.

Word Force

DIGNITARY

From the word or phrase above, form **AT LEAST 24** five-letter words, without using more than one form of the same word. For example, drink or drank (not both).

ANSWERS IN TOMORROW'S POST
Yesterday's word:
INFLUENCER

creel
cruel
elfin
ennui
fence
filer
incur
infer
inner
inure
lifer
linen
liner
lucre
nicer
niece
relic
rifle
runic
ulcer
uncle
urine

Wonderword

How to play: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **Circle their letters only. Do not circle the word.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE BAILIQUE ARCHIPELAGO **Solution: 6 letters**

P B O A T S E O T I U Q S O M
A I S D I H C R O B S G N O S
L O T R D S E K A N S Y A R I
M M A Y A P Ⓐ P H C N E A E R
S E P M L Ⓒ A S L O T S L S U
N S I E Ⓐ M L I I R B E A I O
A Z O Ⓘ A O M T O E G O C D T
E C C O O A A N E R D N I E O
C A A H T T O K E N E A P N C
A S C E E D E T A S L C O T E
T S P G L E S E W A T E R S C
S A E A P A C A M I A I T L N
U V N I R O F A U S T I N O A
R A N H E A L T H C A R E G D
C G N I T S E V R A H Y D R O

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Acai, Amapá, Beekeeping, Biomes, Boats, Canal do Norte, Canoes, Cassava, Climate, Crustaceans, Dance, Delta, Ecotourism, Egrets, Faustino, Harvesting, Healthcare, Hydro, Ilha, Macapá, Meio, Mosquitoes, Nesting, Ocean, Orchids, Palms, Papaya, Pará, Rays, Residents, Schools, Snakes, Songs, Tapioca, Tidal, Tropical, Vegetation, Waters

Yesterday's Answer: Textured

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POST SU DOKU

To solve a Su Doku, you must put a number from 1 to 9, in each empty box.

Each number must appear once in each horizontal row, as well as in each vertical column and in each of the 3-by-3 grids. Impossible? Not once you get the hang of it. Tips and in depth strategies at

www.SudokuWiki.org

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Solutions on Page 44

© Syndicated Puzzles

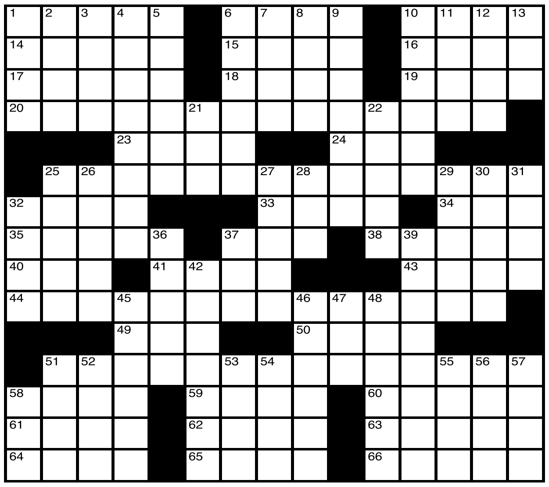
Very Easy #7,321

		1	4	2	5			
	7		8	1		9	6	
		8			7	4	5	
						3		
3	4	7				6	8	9
		9						
	1	3	9			2		
	9	5		3	2		7	
			5	6	4	1		

Difficult #7,111

		7						
	1			8			5	
		4	5	3		2		
7					9	8		5
8	3						9	6
9		1	8					3
		3		7	5	6		
	2			6			4	
						9		

Quick Crossword



Across
1 Carrefour's country
6 Cuticle oil spot
10 Trellis part
14 "Snowy" bird rarely found in snowy places
15 Hindu mentor
16 Pixar film set partially in the afterlife
17 Inner self, to Jung
18 Soup noodle
19 Bicycle attachment
20 Hours at an art gallery?
23 Munich article
24 Memoji platform
25 Factory that produces bad vibes?
32 Irrefutable point
33 Fad
34 Trout's team, on scoreboards
35 Concise concession
37 Part of some uniforms
38 Judicial pauses
40 Mum's mum
41 Word in a Samin Nosrat cookbook title
43 Burden
44 Admit to wearing a dental prosthetic?
49 Broadcast
50 Ivy in New Haven
51 Process of detachment, or an apt title for this puzzle
58 Slam dance
59 Viola clef
60 Getty Images download
61 Otherwise
62 Standard choice
63 Took effect
64 Shredded side
65 School founded in 1440
66 Clear one's name, perhaps?

Down
1 Eye site
2 Hindu god of fire
3 Eye piece
4 Storms
5 Bold alternative
6 "The Sympathizer" Pulitzer winner Viet Thanh
7 German auto
8 Nutrient in beans and rice
9 Putting one foot forward, in a way
10 Doctrinal rupture
11 Arachne's device
12 Land division
13 Boatload
21 "It's ___-brainer!"
22 "For sure!"
25 Start of a Tibetan religious title
26 Taskbar lineup
27 Swap
28 Consume
29 Glazer of "Broad City"
30 Easy bucket
31 Miss
32 Happen across
36 "The Godfather" actress Shire
37 Third-person possessive
39 As one
42 Boutonniere partner
45 Nut used to make cheese or butter
46 Titan of industry
47 Japanese assent
48 Pass
51 Barbie or Ken
52 Rae of "Barbie"
53 Opening at the post office
54 Springfield Elementary bus driver
55 Wee bit
56 Elevator name
57 ___ of the above
58 Mayo o diciembre

ⒾⒻⒺELOK■PARⓈⓃⒾⓅ
ⓃUTLIKE■AVATARⓈ
ⓀNAVERY■NEGATES
■■■INASPIN■■EST
RIGS■■■ACUTE■■■
ANO■CITI■EVADER
NDA■LAURA■CRETE
CUTTING■CORNERS
OCEAN■SACRE■MAE
REEDIT■STEW■EDT
■■■SCATS■■■ODES
LOG■■LENSCAP■■■
ⒺNRAGES■HALTERS
ⒹEADENS■AMPEREⓈ
ⒶⓁⒷERTA■WOOⒹⓇⓄⓌ

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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Dow Jones Indust. Avg. Up 71.72 51,920.62

Business

Nasdaq Comp. Down 118.03 25,358.60

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Mixed day

US stocks ended mixed Thursday after several artificial-intelligence stocks veered back up on their roller-coaster ride, while Apple dropped after hiking prices on many of its products. The Nasdaq shed 0.5% while the Dow ticked up 0.1%.

Carr's view

Federal Communications Commission Chair Brendan Carr said on Thursday that all options remain on the table as it reviews whether to renew the licenses of eight Walt Disney-owned ABC television stations and in its investigation of the network's talk show "The View."

Piping up

SpaceX plans to begin building an eight-mile natural gas pipeline next month called "Starpipe" to its Texas launch facilities, according to county filings, as Elon Musk's company seeks to ramp up launches of its next-generation Starship rocket.

War drone$

US defense firm Anduril Industries is in talks to acquire Nissan Motor's Oppama assembly plant near Tokyo as the maker of autonomous weapons looks to build military drones in Japan, three sources familiar with the matter told Reuters.

Sources: AP, Reuters

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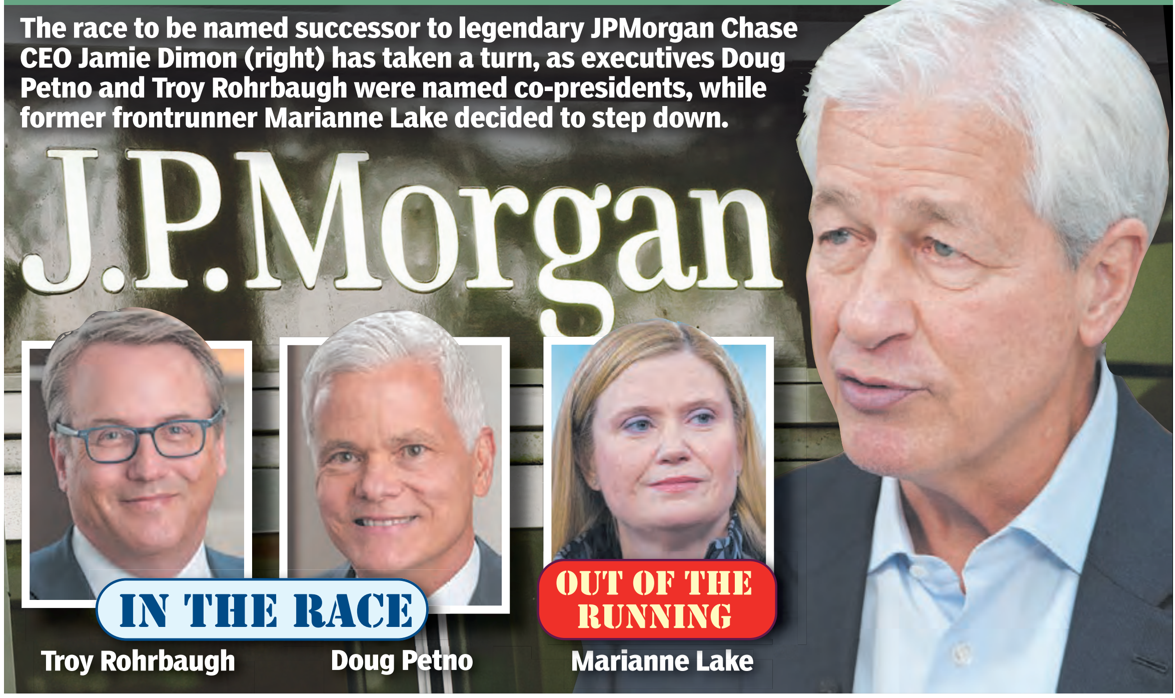
CHASING TOP SPOT

Two vie to be next JPM CEO as former fave quits

By JAMES FRANEY
and CHARLES GASPARINO

Bank role reversal



The race to be named successor to legendary JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon (right) has taken a turn, as executives Doug Petno and Troy Rohrbaugh were named co-presidents, while former frontrunner Marianne Lake decided to step down.

Troy Rohrbaugh Doug Petno Marianne Lake

Getty Images

JPMorgan Chase kicked off yet another horse race to succeed chief executive Jamie Dimon — as the previous frontrunner to lead the nation's biggest bank abruptly retired.

Doug Petno and Troy Rohrbaugh, who have jointly run the bank's Commercial & Investment Bank since early 2024, were named co-presidents of the Wall Street giant effective immediately, according to a regulatory filing.

Meanwhile, Marianne Lake — who previously had been viewed as a leading candidate to succeed the bank's legendary CEO — is retiring. The 56-year-old financier — a 25-year JPMorgan veteran who was tapped a year ago to run the bank's strategic growth office — didn't provide a statement when the bank announced the reshuffle on Thursday.

Lake is said to be "not happy" about being passed over for the top job, according to sources. Dimon is expected to remain CEO for the next three years, a source close to the situation told The Post.

'An important step'

Although Lake has been widely praised for her mastery of financial data and her rapport with investors, she has also faced "criticism and negative feedback from her direct reports on her management style," The Wall Street Journal reported on Thursday, citing unnamed sources.

Lake's "personnel issues weren't determinative in the board's thinking on who should be promoted," the paper said. A "procession of employees formed outside of Lake's office on Thursday to wish her well," and Lake "expects that she will eventually take a new job as a corporate executive," the Journal reported, citing sources.

Lake didn't respond to requests for comment. A JPMorgan spokesperson declined to comment.

Jennifer Piepszak, JPM's chief operating officer, had previously been seen as a possible successor to Dimon alongside Lake, but withdrew her name from the running last year, sources said.

"The changes announced today mark an important step in our Board's thoughtful process around succession planning and development of our top leaders," Dimon, 70, said in a statement, adding that the promotion of Rohrbaugh and Petno "reflects the Board's confidence in their extraordinary leadership capabilities, business performance, relationships, experience and commitment to always doing the right thing."

Petno, 61, will now serve as sole CEO of the Commercial & Investment Bank. Rohrbaugh, 56, will take over as CEO of Consumer & Community Banking, succeeding Lake.

To ensure a smooth transition, JPMorgan awarded top bankers one-time retention packages worth a combined $100 million in restricted stock.

Petno and Rohrbaugh will each receive $30 million. Piepszak and Mary Erdoes, the head of JPM asset management and wealth management business, will each receive $20 million. Of the two co-presidents named Thursday, analysts at Bank of America said Rohrbaugh looks like the frontrunner to eventually succeed Dimon, "although this may not happen for several more years."

Petno and Rohrbaugh each raked in an eye-popping $27.5 million in total compensation last year, according to the bank's latest annual proxy statement. CEO Dimon picked up $43 million in a package that mixes cash and stock.

A 'Dimon'ite résumé for IRS's new #2

Frank Bisignano wants to run the Internal Revenue Service like an efficient private company — and this week he hired Jamie Dimon's private banker to help him do just that, The Post has learned.

Vince La Padula has spent the past 23 years at JPMorgan running something called the "workplace solutions" business in the big bank's wealth management arm.

Now, he's joining Uncle Sam's tax collection agency as Bisignano's No. 2.

La Padula's résumé includes stints in New York City government under Rudy Giuliani and Mike Bloomberg. At JPM, he was also the bank's point man on Ukraine and its efforts to build a postwar economy.

But La Padula was also, in a sense, Dimon's own personal banker, handling his estate planning and investment needs as a key lieutenant of Mary Erdoes, the head of JPM's asset and wealth management unit.

Starting next week, he will take a still-undefined senior role at the IRS, essentially serving as Bisignano's No. 2, an interesting move from the nation's largest and most prestigious bank to a notoriously bureaucratic (and much hated) government agency.

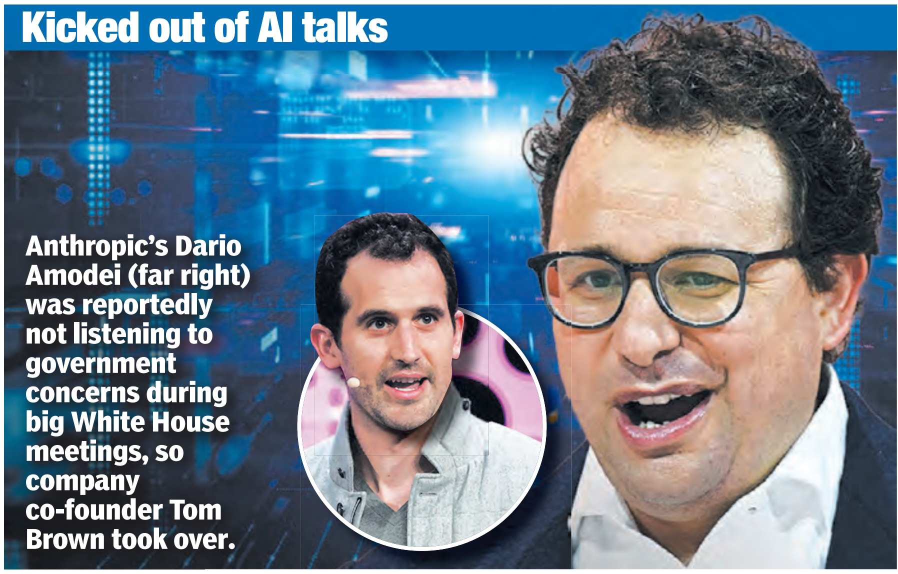
Charles Gasparino

Go home, ‘weirdo’

Amodei booted by WH

By TAYLOR HERZLICH

Kicked out of AI talks



Anthropic’s Dario Amodei (far right) was reportedly not listening to government concerns during big White House meetings, so company co-founder Tom Brown took over.

Getty, Reuters, Adobe

Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei has been replaced by company co-founder Tom Brown at high-stakes White House meetings — where the artificial-intelligence giant’s boss was reportedly “being a weirdo,” according to a report.

Amodei and other top Anthropic workers raced to Washington after the US government slapped the AI giant’s new “Mythos” and “Fable” bots with strict foreign export controls — but Amodei was difficult to talk to and didn’t listen to officials’ concerns, Wired reported.

“Tom Brown is not being a weirdo like Dario and can actually engage,” one person familiar with the calls told the outlet.

In recent days, the Trump administration has had multiple calls with Anthropic, and talks are going well since Amodei has been replaced by Brown and Sarah Heck, the company’s public policy chief, people familiar with the matter told Wired.

The White House and Anthropic did not immediately respond to The Post’s requests for comment.

Earlier this month, the US government slapped the export controls on the ultra-powerful new AI models after Amazon CEO Andy Jassy warned the administration that researchers found evidence it was possible to bypass their safety guardrails.

Anthropic responded by pulling the models offline entirely on June 12, claiming that was the only way to comply with the stringent new restrictions.

The National Security Agency had been testing versions of Anthropic’s AI tools and found that Mythos had identified vulnerabilities in secure government systems within hours, the Associated Press reported Tuesday. This does not necessarily mean the bots would be able to exploit those sensitivities within the same timeframe.

Those tests were part of an Anthropic initiative that partnered with other companies and agencies to test the bots for any potential safety pitfalls.

GOP pols rip new EU regs

Key Republicans in Congress are urging the European Union to reverse strict new environmental and human rights requirements that could cost US businesses billions of dollars more annually, The Post has learned.

In a letter sent Thursday to the EU’s US ambassador, Energy and Commerce Chair Brett Guthrie of Kentucky, Financial Services Chair French Hill of Arkansas and Judiciary Chair Jim Jordan of Ohio took aim at the EU’s new Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, or CSDDD.

“The compliance requirements are onerous and extraterritorial and appear to be designed to deliberately harm American companies,” a copy of the letter obtained by The Post stated, ripping the new rules’ “invasive checks on a company’s supply chains.”

The letter cited a recent study from the Hudson Institute, a conservative think tank based in Washington, DC, that found the CSDDD would lead to “measurable initial compliance costs of between $637 billion and $1.093 trillion.”

The study noted that these costs are comparable to what US firms currently pay in environmental and financial regulations combined.

Annual recurring costs for US businesses would “range from $57 million to $8 billion.” *Taylor Herzlich*

$7B tech merger

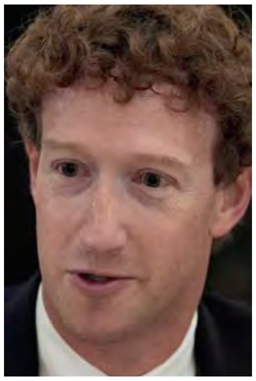
Onsemi said on Thursday it had agreed to acquire Synaptics in an all-stock deal valued at about $7 billion, potentially broadening the chipmaker’s presence in the fast-growing market for AI-enabled devices.

Under the terms of the agreement, Synaptics shareholders will receive 1.35 shares of Onsemi common stock for each Synaptics share. This exchange ratio represents a 19% premium based on the 10-day volume-weighted average closing prices of both companies’ stocks. *Reuters*

Muzzled Meta exec is suing

A former Facebook policy executive is suing Meta over an arbitration order that has barred her for more than a year from speaking about her explosive memoir detailing her six-year tenure at the tech giant.

Sarah Wynn-Williams alleged Meta has used an invalid arbitration agreement to seek penalties of $50,000 for each purported violation of the gag order — including each book sale, according to a suit filed Thursday in US District Court for the Northern District of California.



Her book, “Careless People: A Cautionary Tale of Power, Greed, and Lost Idealism,” a No. 1 New York Times bestseller, alleged Facebook executives and “careless” CEO Mark Zuckerberg (above) were willing to share data with the Chinese Communist Party in exchange for access to the Chinese market.

Wynn-Williams also accused her former bosses of sexual harassment, alleging Joel Kaplan, Meta’s president of global affairs, pressed against her on the dance floor at a work event and called her “sultry.” *Taylor Herzlich*

NEW YORK CITY WATER BOARD

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR:
ADVISORY SERVICES FOR STRUCTURING AND PROCURING A CO-DIGESTION AND RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS PROJECT AT THE HUNTS POINT WASTEWATER RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY THROUGH A CONCESSION AGREEMENT
DUE: AUGUST 12, 2026 AT 4:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME

The New York City Water Board (the “Board”) is issuing this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) to solicit proposals from firms for purposes of providing advisory services to the Board and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”) in connection with activities contemplated at DEP’s Hunts Point Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility (“Hunts Point WRRF”), including the design and procurement of assets related to the co-digestion of waste materials, obtaining commercially viable natural gas from the biogas obtained from those wastewater materials, and the transport of natural gas to commercial purchasers.

The selected advisor or advisor(s) will support the Board and DEP across all phases of developing, structuring, and procuring a co-digestion and renewable natural gas program at the Hunts Point wastewater resource recovery facility. The scope of work is expected to include evaluations drawn from disciplines which include engineering, finance, legal, tax planning, project management, procurement and supply chain management, construction, the structuring of real property transactions, and other disciplines as required. All findings, analyses, recommendations, and work-product produced by the advisor will be documented and delivered to the Board and DEP in written form at intervals specified in the RFP and legal agreement or agreements resulting from this RFP.

To obtain a copy of the RFP, please visit nyc.gov/nycwaterboard or email onazem@dep.nyc.gov with the message subject line “Hunts Point RFP 2026”.

The Board expects to hold an informational conference for interested firms. Information about registering for the informational conference and about the format for submitting questions concerning this RFP are available in the RFP materials available on the Board’s website.

The Board, DEP, and the City of New York are committed to vendor diversity. The Board anticipates including a selection criteria in the forthcoming request for proposals that would provide a selection score bonus to qualified M/WBE firms and encourages those M/WBE firms with M/WBE certifications to present their proposals during the process.

The dates and times of the RFP process and the procedures for submitting an indication are also described in the RFP document on the Board’s website, and prospective bidders are required to adhere to the procedures for communicating with the Board and DEP described in the RFP document.

JOE TSAI
Heat on CEO.

Alibaba ‘jacked’ Claude

Anthropic accused the Chinese tech giant Alibaba of “brazenly” and “illicitly” trying to extract its artificial intelligence capabilities — carrying out “the largest known distillation attack on Anthropic to date.”

Anthropic detailed the alleged violation in a letter to the Senate banking committee, Bloomberg reported.

The act Anthropic imputed to Alibaba — distillation — is an AI training method in which a small, less capable model is built using outputs from a more sophisticated model.

Dario Amodei-led Anthropic wrote that operators affiliated with Alibaba and its Qwen AI lab conducted 28.8 million exchanges with its Claude models using about 25,000 fake accounts between April 22 and June 5, according to Bloomberg.

Alibaba didn’t immediately respond to The Post’s request for comment.

Marc Vartabedian

Sale buzz for Bumble

Dating app Bumble is exploring a sale amid slowing growth in the online dating sector, according to people familiar with the matter.

Bumble, which gained recognition as one of the first major platforms to require women to initiate contact, is working with Morgan Stanley bankers on a potential sale process, the sources said, requesting anonymity because the discussions are private.

They cautioned no deal is certain and it may decide to stay independent. *Reuters*

APPLE’S i$HOCK

By TAYLOR HERZLICH

Apple on Thursday slapped shocking price hikes on a range of its MacBook, iPad and home devices — raising prices by as much as $500 as it blamed an AI-driven surge in demand for memory chips.

Apple’s website briefly went down Thursday morning, then came back online with stunning 15% to 25% price hikes hitting its laptops, tablets, speakers and headsets.

The Cupertino, Calif.-based company raised the prices of all of its MacBook and iPad models, increasing the entry price of its newest MacBook Neo to $699, up from $599, while its 11-inch iPad Pro jumped to $1,199 from $999 and its 13-inch model rose to $1,499 from $1,299.

The 14-inch MacBook Pro rose to $1,999, up from $1,699, while the 16-inch model is now priced at $2,999, up from $2,499 — and a 16-inch Pro with the highest amount of storage will cost a soul-crushing $9,999.

Apple is not alone in raising prices. Xbox on Thursday announced it is jacking up the cost of its gaming consoles by up to $150 around the world, citing the same reason as Apple. And groups repping retailers, automakers and more have warned of pending price hikes due to the memory shortage.

“The consumer electronics industry is facing an unprecedented challenge,” Apple said in a statement. “The rapid expansion of AI data centers has created an extraordinary surge in demand for memory and storage. We have never seen a component price increase this much, this quickly.”

The tech giant said it has “reached a point where we need to begin raising prices on a number of products,” hinting at possible future price hikes.

“We know this is not welcome news, and we are working tirelessly to find solutions,” it added.

Apple CEO Tim Cook warned this month that price hikes “are unavoidable” as power-hungry AI data centers have spiked demand for storage chips over the past six months.

“This is a hundred-year flood,” Cook told the Wall Street Journal. “I’ve never seen anything like it in any area in over 40 years.”

Apple did not raise prices on iPhones, Apple Watches or AirPods.

But it hiked the price of its higher-end MacBook Neo to $799 from $699; raised the 13-inch MacBook Air to $1,299 from $1,099; and hiked the cost of the 15-inch MacBook Air to $1,499 from $1,299.

Apple’s iMac desktop now sells for $1,499, up from $1,299, while its Mac Studio jumped to $2,499 from $1,999. The higher-end Mac mini increased to $1,599 from $1,399.

The 11-inch and 13-inch iPad Pros jumped to $1,199 from $999 and $1,499 from $1,299, respectively. The iPad Airs rose to $749 from $599 for the 11-inch model and to $949 from $799 for the 13-inch version.

Apple’s original iPad rose to $449, up from $349, while the iPad mini jumped to $599, up from $499. The company’s HomePod speaker hit $349, up from $299, while the HomePod mini rose to $129 from $99.

Its Vision Pro headset now starts at $3,699, up from $3,499 — and a version of the wearable with more storage costs $4,199.

Technology tumult

16-inch MacBook Pro
Was: $2,499
Now: $2,999
16-inch iPad Pro
Was: $999
Now: $1,199
MacBook Neo
Was: $599
Now: $699

“This is a hundred-year flood,” Apple CEO Tim Cook told The Wall Street Journal of the surge in chip prices that spurred the dramatic rise in popular Apple tech products. “I’ve never seen anything like it in any area in over 40 years.”

Getty Images / Adobe Stock

Dramatic price hikes amid AI chip demand

OpenAI eyes IPO delay

OpenAI is considering holding off on its public debut until next year, The New York Times reported on Thursday, citing three people involved in the company’s deliberations.

The AI startup, which has confidentially filed for a US initial public offering, is targeting a valuation of up to $1 trillion, Reuters has reported, adding Chief Financial Officer Sarah Friar has told associates the company is aiming for a 2027 listing.

OpenAI’s advisers presented company executives with the option of waiting until 2027 to go public with a $1 trillion valuation, or lower the targeted valuation for a quicker listing, the Times said. *Reuters*

US puts brakes on EV maker

Polestar said Thursday the Trump administration was forcing the electric-vehicle maker to stop selling vehicles in the US beginning in the 2027 model year as Washington ramps up its crackdown on Chinese vehicles.

The US Commerce Department did not grant Polestar authorization to sell cars under the Connected Vehicles Rule, which restricts the import and sale of cars with connected-vehicle technology linked to China beginning with the 2027 model year.

Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, cellular connectivity and some satellite communications technologies are covered under the rules based on national security concerns linked to the ability of vehicles to collect sensitive data on American owners.

The rule was adopted in January 2025 under President Joe Biden, and has been kept in place under President Trump. *Reuters*

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

ENGINEERING

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MIO Senior QA Engineer w/ MIO Partners, Inc. (NY, NY). Analyze work alongside our developers, architects, & other QA Engrs. to develop & execute effective testing strategies & test plans for various proj that improve the exp, efficiency, & perf of MIO's Client service & Advisory apps. Telecommuting permitted. Req's Master's degree in Comp Sci, Comp Engg or a related field or foreign degree equiv + 2 yrs exp w/ SDLC and software testing. $160k-190k/yr. Email your resume to Mary_Caldera@miopartners.com & refer to Job # # **9703624**.

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4th of July Early Deadlines for Classified

Publication Date	Ad Deadline
Fri. July 3rd - Mon. July 6th	Thurs. July 2 11:30AM

We will be closed on Friday, July 3rd, 2026

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NEW YORK POST

NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK
__________________________X
SUMMONS
Docket Nos.: B-5046-26

In the Matter of the Petition of
HEARTSHARE ST. VINCENT'S SERVICES
for an order committing to it the guardianship and custody of

UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN
AKA BABY UNKNOWN

a dependent child.
__________________________X

IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
TO: COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

A verified Petition having been filed in this Court alleging that the above named child in the care of HeartShare St. Vincent's Services, the Petitioner, has no parents whose consent is required for adoption, and/or that this child was abandoned by any parents who may exist, and a copy of said Petition being annexed hereto;

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR before the Family Court, New York County, IN PERSON at 60 Lafayette Street, New York, New York Part 3 OR VIA VIRTUAL APPEARANCE by visiting the following hyperlink: https://notify.nycourts.gov/meet/0k681g OR by calling 347-378-4143 and entering Conference ID: 320969597# on the 28th day of July 2026, at 12:30 o'clock in the forenoon of said day to show cause why the Court should not enter an Order depriving you of all the rights of guardianship and custody of UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN awarding guardianship and custody of said child to the petitioning authorized agency and the Commissioner of Social Services of the City of New York, jointly and severally as provided by law.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that if guardianship and custody of the child are committed to the Petitioner and to the Commissioner of Social Services of the City of New York, the child may be adopted with the consent of said authorized agency, without further notice to you and without your consent.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that you are entitled to be represented by an attorney, and if you cannot afford to retain an attorney, one will be appointed to represent you by the Court free of charge to you.

In the event of your failure to appear, said failure to appear will result in the termination of all your parental rights to the child.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that your failure to appear shall constitute a denial of interest in the child, which denial may result in the transfer or commitment of the child's care, custody, guardianship or adoption of the child, all without further notice to the parent of the child.

Dated: June 23, 2026

By Order of the Court
________/S/_________
Clerk of the Family Court

Lindsey Ferioli, Esq.
Attorney for the Petitioner
HeartShare St. Vincent's Services
66 Boerum Place
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Notification is hereby given that Bank of America National Association, 100 North Tryon Street, Suite 170, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, NC, 28202, has filed an application with the Comptroller of the Currency on June 26, 2026, as specified in 12 CFR 5 of the Comptroller's Licensing Manual, for permission to relocate its domestic branch as follows:

- From: 560 2nd Avenue, New York, New York County, NY - 10016
- To: 300 E 23rd Street, New York, New York County, NY - 10010

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Director for Large Bank Licensing, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 7 Times Square, 10th Floor Mailroom, New York, New York 10036, within 30 days after the date of this publication. The public may find information about the filing in the OCC's Weekly Bulletin available at www.occ.gov. Additionally, the public portion of the filed application is available upon request.

NASSAU COUNTY
LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY DEVIATION FROM USCG REGULATIONS
EFFECTIVE FROM 21:30 ON JUNE 27, 2026 THROUGH 00:00 ON JUNE 28, 2026, THE LONG BEACH BRIDGE WILL REMAIN IN THE CLOSED POSITION.

QUEENS COUNTY
NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF QUEENS
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC,
-against-
PETER BAILEY, ET AL.
NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Queens on May 27, 2025, wherein LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC is the Plaintiff and PETER BAILEY, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the QUEENS COUNTY SUPREME COURT, 88-11 SUTPHIN BLVD, COURTROOM 25, JAMAICA, NY 11435, on July 24, 2026 at 10:00AM, premises known as 12001 170TH STREET, JAMAICA, NY 11434; and the following tax map identification: 12387-117.
ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS, COUNTY OF QUEENS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 717019/2022. Fearonce G. LaLande, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. *LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

ALBANY COUNTY
NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Qualification of SevaRx, LLC. Certificate of Authority filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/09/2025. Office location: Albany County. Limited Liability Company (LLC) formed on 6/20/2023. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Resident Agent LLC: 700 Lavaca St, Austin, Texas 78701. Articles of Organization originally filed with Secretary of State (SOS). 10996 Four Seasons Place, Suite 100C Crown Point, IN 46307 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

LLC Formation Notices:
All NYS Counties

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NEW YORK POST

NOTICE OF SALE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that in accordance with applicable provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code as enacted in New York, by virtue of certain Event(s) of Default under that certain Ownership Interest Pledge and Security Agreement, dated as of September 30, 2022 (the "**Pledge Agreement**"), executed and delivered by OnBoard Hospitality Holdings LLC (the "**Pledgor**"), and in accordance with its rights as holder of the security, SBT Capital, LLC (the "**Secured Party**"), by virtue of that certain UCC-1 Filing Statement made in favor of Secured Party, and in accordance with Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code of the State of New York (the "**Code**"), Secured Party will offer for sale, at public auction, (i) Pledgor's 100% membership interest in and to OnBoard Hospitality LLC (the "**Pledged Entity**"), and (ii) certain related rights and property relating thereto (collectively, (i) and (ii) are the "**Collateral**"). Secured Party's understanding is that the principal assets of the Pledged Entity is that certain real property commonly known as 34-36 West 38th Street, New York, New York (the "**Property**") (collectively, the "**Property**"). Maltz Auctions ("**Maltz**"), under the direction of Richard B. Maltz or David A. Constantino (the "**Auctioneer**"), will conduct a public sale consisting of the Collateral (as set forth in Schedule A below), via online bidding, on **July 24, 2026 at 1:00pm**, in satisfaction of an indebtedness in the approximate amount of **$6,885,988.45**, including principal, interest on principal, and reasonable fees and costs, plus default interest through July 24, 2026, subject to open charges and all additional costs, fees and disbursements permitted by law. The Secured Party reserves the right to credit bid. Online bidding will be made available for pre-registered bidders via Maltz's online bidding App available for download in the App Store or on Google play and via desktop bidding at remotebidding.maltzauctions.com. **Bidder Qualification Deadline**: July 23, 2026 by 3:30 pm. Executed Terms & Conditions of Sale along with ten (10%) of Bidders intended bid amount (to be submitted via **wire transfer**) are required for consideration by any interested party and submitted directly to Maltz. Requests for wiring instructions should be sent to **rmaltz@maltzauctions.com.**

SCHEDULE A

Pledged Interest
PLEDGOR *ONBOARD HOSPITALITY HOLDINGS, LLC, a New York limited liability company*
ISSUER *ONBOARD HOSPITALITY LLC, a New York limited liability company*
INTERESTS PLEDGED *100% membership interest*

KRISS & FEUERSTEIN LLP
Attn: Michael J. Bonneville, Esq.
Attorneys for Secured Party
360 Lexington Avenue, Suite 1200
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NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff AGAINST JUAN CRUZ; ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered October 26, 2017, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse, on the second floor in Courtroom 25, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York on July 10, 2026 at 10:00 AM, premises known as 102-02 39th Avenue, Corona, NY 11368. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the former Town of Newtown, County of Queens, City and State of New York, Block: 1770 Lot: 26. Approximate amount of judgment $709,852.02 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #725411/2021. For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www.Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. Lawrence M. Litwack, Esq., Referee Fein, Such & Crane, LLP 28 East Main Street Rochester, NY 14614 AYSNC295 90024

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NEW YORK POST ACTION

Post Time: **1:10 p.m.**
vcangialosi@nypost.com

Belmont at the Big A

Analysis by Vic Cangialosi

Lock of the Day
Carc Brothers (8th)
Lock Record: 11 for 19 (58%)
Meet Record: 65/227 $315.42

1 1 mile(T); $60,000; mdn clm($75,000); 3up

Final Friday at the Big A. On the turf in the opener.

FATEFUL LIGHTNING Dirt to turf for Gustavo Rodriguez. 2nd with similar last grass start. Carmouche replaces Santana. Rides **EXECUTIVE** for DePaz. Finished well for 2nd, then a compromised 9th at Churchill. Blinkers on. And Chad Brown trains first time starter **REBALANCING** for Klaravich. Davis on the Charlatan 3YO.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Mortal Lock(L),126	M Franco	8-12-3	Weaver	5-1
2	Chester Boy(L),120	J Rodriguez	6-4-x	Clement	7-2
3	Cederberg(M),120	F Prat	8-x-x	C Brown	3-1
4	Rebalancing(M),120	D Davis	x-x-x	C Brown	9-2
5	Executive(L),126	R Santana, Jr	9-2-10	De Paz	5-2
6	Fateful Lightning(L),126	K Carmouche	6-2-4	Rodriguez	6-1
7	Chess Match(L),120	K Davis	3-4-6	DeLauro	30-1

2 1 mile; $55,000; clm($25,000); 4up

Linda Rice's **HOURS IN A DAY** always shows up. He's 3 for 9 at Aqueduct but never the board. 3rd best last 3 starts. **SHIPSATIONAL** is 0 for 24 at the Big A after missing by a neck last pair. Well back of top pick previously. And **WAR MASTER** is 1 for 15 over the last 2 years after a wide 4th. Rodriguez on the Delaware shipper.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Expensive Cut(L),121	E Zayas	2-3-4	Kantarmaci	6-1
2	Sagamore Mischief(L),121	M Franco	3-2-3	Kantarmaci	4-1
3	Shipsational(L),121	S Gonzalez	2-3-6	Kantarmaci	3-1
4	Quiet Wisdom(L),121	J Castellano	4-3-2	Potts	5-1
5	War Master(L),121	J Rodriguez	4-3-4	Gorham	6-1
6	Smilensaycheese(L),121	K Davis	5-6-8	DeLauro	20-1
7	Hours in a Day(L),121	J Lezcano	3-3-3	Rice	2-1

3 7 fur; $70,000; alw; 3up

Some **COCKTAILSNKRINGLE**? He's 2 for 20 but runnerup last pair. Led, caught, last out so Schauer shaves a furlong. **GOLDEN SYMPHONY** (Rice) and **FARM TEAM** (Kantarmaci) ran home 1-2 this distance weeks ago. **FEVER NIGHT** moves higher for Rice off back-to-back victories. Speed on the rail.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Fever Night(L),126	J Lezcano	1-1-5	Rice	6-1
2	Farm Team(L),126	F Prat	2-3-5	Kantarmaci	4-1
3	Golden Symphony(L),126	M Franco	1-4-9	Rice	5-2
4	Master Freud(L),126	D Rivera	10-6-1	Arriaga	9-2
5	Gypsy Dreaming(L),126	R Santana, Jr	4-4-2	Quick	8-1
6	Cocktailsnkringle(L),126	R Silvera	2-2-4	Schauer	3-1
7	Awesome Empire(L),126	D Davis	3-7-3	Sharp	8-1

4 6 fur; $48,000; mdn clm($50,000); 3up

Turf to dirt and lower for Bond's **SPEIGHTFUL STORM**. Couple of lengths shy last 2 on dirt. Zayas on; blinkers off. Mott takes **ARISTIDE MAILLOL** lower as well. Ran 6th last 3 starts. Better here. **CHRISS SONG** was 3rd, a neck back of **RICHIES LOVE** who was 2nd. Chriss Song was operating off the 7 month layoff.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	True Adirondacker(L),121	J Castellano	6-8-x	Potts	10-1
2	Easemyworriedmind(L),121	F Prat	8-4-x	Hennig	9-2
3	Sunshine Bobalou(L),121	O Hrndz Mreno	x-x-x	Chichakly	20-1
4	Speightful Storm(L),126	E Zayas	8-3-4	James Bond	5-2
5	Start the Day(L),121	D Davis	11-x-x	Donk	20-1
6	Aristide Maillol(L),121	J Lezcano	6-6-6	Mott	7-2
7	Chris's Song(L),126	R Santana, Jr	3-6-3	Rice	9-2
8	Richies Love(L),121	K Carmouche	2-2-4	Miceli	5-1
9	Keep 'Em Honest(L),121	R Gutierrez	5-x-x	Miceli	20-1

5 1 3/16 miles(T); $85,000; mdn; 3up

It's **DONEGAL TIME**. Ran evenly for 4th, both starts. New trainer Steven Hampson gives him more ground to work with. Johnny V at a price. **IRON SIGHT** made turf debut at Saratoga last summer. Hasn't raced since. Finished well and Chad Brown stretches him longer off the long layoff. Resurfaces as a 1st time gelding. Brown also enters **GOLD SOVEREIGN**. Ran 2nd last pair as fave, latest at 1 3/8 miles. Davis subs for Prat who stays on Iron Sight. **ORGONITE** was 3rd behind Gold Sovereign.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	British Invasion(IRE)(M),120	M Franco	4-2-x	Clement	4-1
2	Duty(L),126	J Rodriguez	2-3-2	Clement	5-1
3	Donegal Time(L),120	J Velazquez	4-4-x	Hampson	8-1
4	Iron Sight(L),126	F Prat	5-3-3	C Brown	3-1
5	Orgonite(L),126	K Carmouche	3-4-3	Donk	4-1
6	Protect and Defend(L),120	J Lezcano	5-2-6	McGaughey III	10-1
7	Languid(L),120	R Santana, Jr	8-3-3	R Dutrow	30-1
8	Gold Sovereign(L),126	D Davis	2-2-5	C Brown	7-2

6 1 1/16 miles(T); $82,000; alw; 3up

Powerful late runs from **WILLPOWERED** but he had to settle for 2nd last pair, latest at Saratoga weeks ago. Clement's colt won only start at this shorter distance. **HEY TOBY** MTO. Has a win over the wet. **NEWLYN** makes 3YO debut for Weaver. Broke maiden (4th start) this distance prior to the break. We will wait. **INSPEIGHTOFCHARLIE** graduated on his 7th try, then a nose behind a next out winner. Must be considered.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Blue Pill(L),126	F Villa Pino	1-5-8	Ferraro	30-1
2	Inspeightofcharlie(L),126	M Franco	2-1-3	Tagg	2-1
3	Joe West(L),126	R Gutierrez	5-5-4	Begg	30-1
4	English Castle(L),126	J Rodriguez	8-7-3	De Paz	6-1
5	Willpowered(L),126	F Prat	2-2-1	Clement	8-5
6	Six Fortyfive(L),126	K Carmouche	9-3-3	Dini	10-1
7	Oat Coutour(L),126	J Lezcano	4-8-5	Englehart	8-1
8	Newlyn(L),120	R Santana, Jr	1-4-2	Weaver	10-1
9	Tough Critic(M),120	D Davis	7-4-4	Weaver	15-1
10	Corvus(L),126	E Zayas	6-7-4	Kantarmaci	9-2
11	Hey Toby(L),126	K Carmouche	4-2-6	Englehart	7-5

7 6 1/2 fur; $39,000; clm($25,000); 3up

Two front running wins in a row for **MANHATTAN CHROME.** Brad Cox has him competitively spotted for threepeat but can he get the longer distance? **MATH TUTOR** is just as fast and is the M/L fave after winning by open lengths. 0 for 2 at this distance. NANTZ: was a wide 5th behind **ENDURING SPIRIT** who was 2nd. Rider change: Prat on Nantz. **EXECUTIVE ORDER** was 5th at Monmouth but 2 for 2 at this distance.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Nantz(L),126	F Prat	5-4-1	Kantarmaci	9-2
2	Airborne Elite(L),126	J Castellano	3-7-3	Potts	12-1
3	Executive Order(L),126	J Rodriguez	5-9-7	Bartkowski	5-1
4	Epitaph(L),126	E Zayas	11-5-4	Potts	12-1
5	Manhattan Chrome(L),121	M Franco	1-1-7	Cox	9-2
6	Typhoon Fury(L),126	R Gutierrez	4-8-4	Charlerie	8-1
7	Math Tutor(L),126	C Elliott	1-3-8	Antonucci	5-2
8	Enduring Spirit(L),126	D Davis	2-5-3	Figueroa	8-1
9	Sebastianthe First(L),126	R Santana, Jr	4-2-2	Delgado	10-1

8 1 3/16 miles(T); $70,000; alw; 3up

Two starts, two handy wins for **CARC BROTHERS**. Can he get this longer distance to keep his record clean? Yes. **APALTA** MTO. **OUTSOURCE** Midpack 4th with comparable company. Only 3/4 short racing 1 3/8 miles last summer. **HARD CIRCLE** has won 2 in row after going 0 for 11. Moves higher; runs longer.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Salt Spartan(L),126	J Velazquez	4-3-10	Donk	12-1
2	American Grant(L),126	E Zayas	10-6-6	B Brown	30-1
3	Hard Circle(L),126	J Castellano	1-1-6	Kantarmaci	8-1
4	Carc Brothers(L),126	M Franco	1-1-x	Atras	1-1
5	Rules of the Road(L),120	D Davis	4-1-4	Maker	20-1
6	Outsource(L),126	R Santana, Jr	4-6-7	Morley	4-1
7	War Officer(L),126	F Prat	4-6-5	Joseph	6-1
8	Final Denile(L),126	C Elliott	6-1-2	De Paz	15-1
9	Vintage Vino(L),126	R Silvera	8-4-7	Rice	12-1
10	Dreams of Rome(L),120	J Rodriguez	1-4-x	De Paz	30-1
11	Register(L),126	S Gonzalez	3-5-1	Kantarmaci	6-1
12	Egyptian(L),126	Rider TBA	1-2-4	R Dutrow	7-2
13	Into the Light(L),120	Rider TBA	1-2-7	R Dutrow	9-2
14	Run Quiet Run Fast(L),126	Rider TBA	4-6-4	Morley	6-1
15	Apalta(L),126	M Franco	5-1-5	Kantarmaci	5-2

9 1 1/16m(T); $41,000; mdn clm($30,000); 3up

FOTO was a couple of lengths short last pair, this distance. Castellano stays on for Duggan. **TEUTONIC** made grass debut and finished a flat 4th of 7. Sneaks lower for Chad Brown. Blinkers on. **URGENCY** tired racing 6/8, but got beat by 3/4 racing a mile. Prat rides for Dutrow.

PN	Horse Wt.	Jockey	Last 3	Trainer	Odds
1	Savvylicious(L),120	J Rodriguez	6-x-x	Clement	6-1
2	Money Tour(L),126	C Gonzalez	7-4-6	Seyler	30-1
3	Levi Warrior(L),120	J Velazquez	5-7-6	Hennig	9-2
4	Foto(L),126	J Castellano	5-4-7	Duggan	8-1
5	Tail Risk(L),120	C Elliott	6-7-x	Terranova II	10-1
6	Go Dharma(L),120	O Hrndz Mreno	5-6-3	Chatterpaul	15-1
7	War Anthem(M),120	R Silvera	8-x-x	Nevin	12-1
8	Teutonic(L),120	M Franco	4-5-x	C Brown	5-2
9	Urgency(L),120	F Prat	6-7-3	R Dutrow	3-1
10	Baby Meanie(L),120	R Santana, Jr	3-4-5	Ferraro	20-1
11	Bootsy's a Rascal(L),120	Rider TBA	4-8-9	Schettino	8-1

PLAY OF THE DAY

Crowded pack in the stretch, but it was Leslie's Humor ($7.04) who emerged victorious. Profit on the day: +$75.60.

Three shopping days left at Aqueduct. We found two bargains. Play $8 across the board on Donegal Time in Race 5 and Foto in Race 9.

— *Vic Cangialosi*

Yonkers entries Friday

Post Time: 6:45 p.m.

FIRST: Mile trot; $55,000; NY NY

1	Myths And Legends	(SZeron)	1-1-1	5-1
2	WishuponastarDeo	(JBrtlett)	3-1-1	5-2
3	R Ro	(TButer)	2-1-3	7-5
4	Busy Miss Lissy S	(JAhle)	5-3-4	3-1
5	Abbey Blue Chip	(TTetrick)	5-1-4	8-1

SECOND: Mile pace; $50,000; MGM

1	Ideal Beauty Queen	(SZeron)	4-3-5	4-1
2	Lochinvar Matilda	(LTritton)	2-2-2	7-2
3	Two Twenty Swift	(JBartlett)	1-2-1	7-5
4	Existential	(MKakaley)	6-8-2	8-1
5	Bettor Be A Star	(DDunn)	5-3-1	7-2
6	Ideal Pro	(BBoyd)	7-4-X	20-1

THIRD: Mile trot; $55,000; NY NY

1	Atlantic Summer	(RWrenn)	5-3-7	5-2
2	EmmsMysteryCcl	(McCrthy)	7-3-5	3-2
3	Rani Hanover	(SZeron)	2-1-6	6-1
4	Jula Hot To Chill	(MKakaley)	7-4-5	5-2
5	Sparks	(ASvanstedt)	1-8-7	8-1

FOURTH: Mile pace; $50,000; MGM

1	Napalm	(DDunn)	3-8-3	2-1
2	American Billinair	(JBartlett)	10-4-7	10-1
3	Tall Dark Tequila	(TButer)	2-1-1	5-2
4	Call Me Angelita	(MKakaley)	3-6-3	8-1
5	I'm A Lou Lou	(TTetrick)	2-1-3	3-2

FIFTH: Mile pace; $23,000; cond

1	Princess Stella	(JStratton)	1-2-3	5-1
2	Dw's Darlene	(TTetrick)	2-6-1	5-1
3	Elegant A	(CKelly)	2-1-7	9-2
4	Youllfindout	(TMcCarthy)	4-1-1	9-2
5	Cheryls Shadow	(YGingras)	3-6-2	8-1
6	True Blue Hanover	(TButer)	5-4-7	20-1
7	Chanceoflightning	(RWrenn)	2-8-3	10-1
8	Aardie B Miki N	(JBartlett)	3-7-6	5-2

SIXTH: Mile pace; $28,000; cond

1	Bri Express N	(JStratton)	2-2-5	5-1
2	Lucky Artist A	(ASiegelman)	4-3-1	8-1
3	Hunting Hula	(PLachance)	2-6-1	8-1
4	Ideal Cover	(CKelly)	8-2-2	20-1
5	Worklifebalance	(TMcCrthy)	2-2-2	2-1
6	Nila Maree N	(JBartlett)	1-3-3	3-1
7	LooklikediamondsA	(LTrittn)	5-3-4	12-1
8	Sheer Artistry N	(SZeron)	1-2-5	8-1

SEVENTH: Mile pace; $43,000; Invitational

1	Factory Girl	(TTetrick)	4-9-1	9-2
2	Front PageStory	(Lachance)	5-5-4	12-1
3	Raspalia N	(TButer)	6-1-1	7-2
4	Millwood Bliss N	(DDunn)	2-4-5	3-1
5	Stayingwiththewnd	(JBrtlett)	3-7-1	9-2
6	Tick A Loch A	(MKakaley)	6-1-5	15-1
7	Coastal Babe N	(CKelly)	7-3-4	6-1
8	Seaside Diva	(YGingras)	1-3-2	8-1

EIGHTH: 1 1/4 ml pc; $200,000; MGM

1	Mighty Matt	(BBoyd)	2-4-2	4-1
2	Fragment	(JBartlett)	1-2-1	8-5
3	Al Papi	(YGingras)	4-2-3	7-2
4	Frantic Hanover	(TTetrick)	1-1-7	9-2
5	Hunt Off The Press	(SZeron)	3-5-4	20-1
6	Apoclypseblechp	(McCrthy)	5-4-1	20-1
7	Melillo	(RWrenn)	5-4-1	5-1

NINTH: 1 1/4 ml tr; $250,000; MGM

1	Kingmen	(DDunn)	5-5-2	6-1
2	A Secured	(ASvanstedt)	5-3-6	9-2
2	Create Escape	(JAhle)	2-4-1	9-2
2	B Nordic Dancer S	(TButer)	4-5-4	9-2
3	Requiem	(RWrenn)	1-3-2	5-1
4	Silverstein	(MKakaley)	1-5-1	3-1
5	Inexpressable	(TTetrick)	1-1-7	6-1
6	Ai	(YGingras)	6-2-4	20-1
7	Ardonne	(SZeron)	4-6-3	20-1
8	Spencer Hanover	(JBartlett)	1-1-1	5-2

TENTH: Mile trot; $23,000; cond

1	Tally The Tab	(MKakaley)	1-2-1	8-1
2	Stmikes Kerryblues	(TButer)	6-2-1	8-1
3	Commodus A	(JBartlett)	5-6-6	9-5
4	Frank Leahy	(RWrenn)	4-8-6	7-2
5	Musical Ride	(PLachance)	5-2-3	20-1
6	Windsong Pioneer	(CKelly)	6-1-7	20-1
7	Onajetplane	(TMcCarthy)	3-8-3	6-1
8	Hot Flash Kimmy	(JStratton)	2-3-7	5-1

Aqueduct Results

FIRST-1 3/16 mile; $85,000; mdn; 3up (f&m)
4 Cnsnss Vw (GB) (Frnc) 17.12 8.52 14.66
5 Chartist (Davis) 6.90 9.08
3 Stand the Rain (Rodriguez) 6.92

● $1 Exacta (4-5) $46.78 ● $0.1 Superfecta (4-5-3-6) $14.21 ● $0.5 Trifecta (4-5-3) $61.30

SECOND-1 mile; $31,000; cl($15,0); 3upf
5 Ldy Wsdom (Frnc) 4.74 2.50 2.10
6 Blenheim Baby (Prat) 2.84 2.22
7 Pocket Queens (Zayas) 2.34
Scr: Danneel, Spirit of Esther
● $1 Daily Double (4-5) $23.57 ● $1 Exacta (5-6) $5.81 ● $1 Quinella (5-6) $3.26 ● $0.1 Superfecta (5-6-7-1) $3.85 ● $0.5 Trifecta (5-6-7) $5.02 ● $1 Consolation Double (4-3) $6.78

Exacta picked by Vic C

THIRD-1 1/16 mile; $48,000; md cl($50,0); 3pf
8 Rosbrns Drm (Zys) 50.28 16.38 7.44
2 No Need to Pnc (Cstllno) 2.98 2.10
1 Island Charm (Franco) 3.18
Scr: Big Jackie, Luckbeourlady
● $1 Consolation Pick 3 (4-3-8) $147.06 ● $1 Pick 3 (4-5-8) $504.81 ● $1 Daily Double (5-8) $60.26 ● $1 Exacta (8-2) $72.94 ● $0.1 Superfecta (8-2-1-7) $118.11 ● $0.5 Trifecta (8-2-1) $156.85

FOURTH-6 fur; $92,000; alw; 4up (f&m)
3 Lsl's Humor (Dvs) 7.04 3.38 2.60
1 Les Reys (FR) (Prat) 4.20 2.88
6 Munnings Express (Lezcano) 3.16
Scr: Bam's Bliss Kiss
● $1 Pick 3 (5-8-3) $194.62 ● $1 Daily Double (8-3) $105.73 ● $1 Exacta (3-1) $11.99 ● $1 Quinella (1-3) $6.15 ● $0.1 Superfecta (3-1-6-5) $9.47 ● $0.5 Trifecta (3-1-6) $26.68

Winner picked by Vic C (Lock)

FIFTH-5½ fur; $85,000; mdn spl wt; 2YO
2 Flght Cmmnd (Frnc) 4.56 2.94 2.10
5 Hurrcane Mo (SantanJr.) 3.46 2.68
3 Johnny Hockey (Rivera) 4.08
Scr: Deter, Roadhouse Warrior
● $1 Pick 3 (8-3-2) $237.10 ● $0.5 Pick 4 (2/3/5-8-3/7-1/2/8) $193.88 ● $0.5 Pick 5 (4-2/3/5-8-3/7-1/2/8) $4071.40 ● $1 Daily Double (3-2) $8.93 ● $1 Exacta (2-5) $7.47 ● $0.1 Superfecta (2-5-3-7) $14.94 ● $0.5 Trifecta (2-5-3) $19.16

Double picked by Vic C

SIXTH-1 mile; $65,000; clm($40,000); 4up
4 Scrd Lndng (Crmch) 6.68 4.36 2.56
6 Three Technique (Zayas) 9.50 4.48
7 Frizzante (Franco) 2.54
Scr: Treaty Obligation, Neon Bordeaux
● $1 Pick 3 (3-2-4) $30.36 ● $1 Daily Double (2-4) $7.44 ● $1 Exacta (4-6) $24.41 ● $0.1 Superfecta (4-6-7-8) $31.32 ● $0.5 Trifecta (4-6-7) $31.23

Pick Three picked by Vic C

SEVENTH-6 fur; $55,000; alw; 4up (f&m)
1 Mursal (Davis) 6.06 3.44 2.72
8 Proud Foot (Franco) 3.72 2.90
7 Despo's Dream (Elliott) 2.84
Scr: Calling an Audible
● $1 Grand Slam (1/3/6-2/3/5-4/6/7-1) $7.04
● $1 Pick 3 (2-4-1) $32.54 ● $1 Daily Double (4-1) $15.46 ● $1 Exacta (1-8) $11.78 ● $0.1 Superfecta (1-8-7-2) $20.82 ● $0.5 Trifecta (1-8-7) $18.83 ● $1 Pick 3 (2-4-1) $32.54 ● $1 Daily Double (4-1) $15.46 ● $1 Exacta (1-8) $11.78 ● $0.1 Show (1-8-7-2) $20.82 ● $0.5 Trifecta (1-8-7) $18.83 ● $1 Place Pick 9 (1/3/6-2/3/5-4/6/7-1) $7.04

EIGHTH-6 fur; $48,000; cl($40,0); 3up (f&m)
6 Mdnghtlvffr (Cstlln) 21.46 11.48 5.74
2 Scorch (Silvera) 11.48 6.94
1 Artistic Success (Carmouche) 3.54
Scr: Leslie's Star
● $1 Pick 6 (8-3/7-1/2/8-2/4/5-1/4-6) $366.71
● $1 Pick 6 (8-3/7-1/2/8-2/4/5-1/4-6) $205044.31 ● $1 Pick 3 (4-1-6) $265.90 ● $0.5 Pick 4 (1/2/8-2/4/5-1/4-6) $383.62 ● $0.5 Pick 5 (3/7-1/2/8-2/4/5-1/4-6) $1851.19 ● $1 Daily Double (1-6) $37.96 ● $1 Exacta (6-2) $101.24 ● $0.1 Superfecta (6-2-1-5) $189.36 ● $0.5 Trifecta (6-2-1) $221.30 ● $1 Pick 3 (4-1-6) $265.90 ● $0.5 Pick 4 (1/2/8-2/4/5-1/4-6) $383.62 ● $0.5 Pick 5 (3/7-1/2/8-2/4/5-1/4-6) $1851.19 ● $1 Pick 6 (8-3/7-1/2/8-2/4/5-1/4-6) $366.71 ● $1 Pick 6 (8-3/7-1/2/8-2/4/5-1/4-6) $205044.31 ● $1 Daily Double (1-6) $37.96 ● $1 Exacta (6-2) $101.24 ● $0.1 Show (6-2-1-5) $189.36 ● $0.5 Trifecta (6-2-1) $221.30

AL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Yankees	48	32	.600	—	—	5-5	L-1	22-15	26-17
Tampa Bay	45	33	.577	2	+7½	4-6	W-2	28-12	17-21
Toronto	39	42	.481	9½	—	5-5	L-3	22-21	17-21
Baltimore	38	44	.463	11	1½	4-6	L-2	22-19	16-25
Boston	33	46	.418	14½	5	4-6	W-1	13-25	20-21

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Cleveland	42	39	.519	—	+3	4-6	W-1	19-17	23-22
Chicago	41	38	.519	—	—	4-6	L-1	26-13	15-25
Minnesota	38	44	.463	4½	1½	6-4	L-3	20-22	18-22
Detroit	34	47	.420	8	5	5-5	L-3	22-19	12-28
Kansas City	34	48	.415	8½	5½	5-5	L-2	19-22	15-26

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Seattle	41	41	.500	—	—	4-6	L-2	22-19	19-22
Houston	40	43	.482	1½	—	7-3	W-3	20-21	20-22
Athletics	39	42	.481	1½	—	4-6	W-1	18-23	21-19
Texas	39	42	.481	1½	—	4-6	W-1	19-18	20-24
Los Angeles	34	48	.415	7	5½	5-5	W-2	19-21	15-27

***WGB:** Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

Thursday

Boston 6, **Yankees** 3
Tampa Bay 13, Kansas City 2
Pittsburgh 5, Seattle 1
Athletics 9, San Francisco 6
Houston 2, Detroit 1
Texas 6, Toronto 5

Friday

Yankees at Boston, 7:10
Houston at Detroit, 6:40
Washington at Baltimore, 7:05
Texas at Toronto, 7:07
Arizona at Tampa Bay, 7:10
Seattle at Cleveland, 7:10
Kansas City at White Sox, 7:40
Colorado at Minnesota, 8:10
Athletics at L.A. Angels, 9:38

Saturday

Yankees at Boston, 1:10
Houston at Detroit, 1:10
Texas at Toronto, 3:07
Kansas City at White Sox, 4:10
Arizona at Tampa Bay, 6:10
Washington at Baltimore, 7:05
Colorado at Minnesota, 7:10
Seattle at Cleveland, 7:10
Athletics at L.A. Angels, 9:38

NL Standings

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Atlanta	48	31	.608	—	—	3-7	L-4	24-14	24-17
Philadelphia	45	36	.556	4	+1½	7-3	W-3	23-19	22-17
Miami	42	39	.519	7	1½	7-3	W-2	28-17	14-22
Washington	41	41	.500	8½	3	4-6	L-3	17-25	24-16
Mets	34	47	.420	15	9½	2-8	L-6	18-22	16-25

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Milwaukee	49	29	.628	—	—	7-3	W-4	25-15	24-14
Chicago	44	37	.543	6½	+½	7-3	W-4	23-17	21-20
St. Louis	42	36	.538	7	—	4-6	L-2	22-19	20-17
Pittsburgh	41	40	.506	9½	2½	5-5	W-2	22-20	19-20
Cincinnati	37	42	.468	12½	5½	4-6	L-3	19-22	18-20

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	*WGB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Los Angeles	52	29	.642	—	—	7-3	W-3	26-14	26-15
San Diego	42	37	.532	9	½	6-4	W-3	22-19	20-18
Arizona	41	39	.513	10½	2	6-4	W-2	24-17	17-22
San Francisco	33	47	.413	18½	10	5-5	L-1	16-21	17-26
Colorado	32	49	.395	20	11½	6-4	W-1	18-22	14-27

***WGB:** Games behind third-place team in wild-card race

Thursday

Cubs 4, **Mets** 3, 10 inn.
Pittsburgh 5, Seattle 1
Athletics 9, San Francisco 6
Philadelphia 10, Washington 5
Arizona at St. Louis, ppd.

Friday

Philadelphia at **Mets**, 7:10
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 6:40
Washington at Baltimore, 7:05
Arizona at Tampa Bay, 7:10
Cubs at Milwaukee, 7:45
Colorado at Minnesota, 8:10
Miami at St. Louis, 8:15
L.A. Dodgers at San Diego, 9:45
Atlanta at San Francisco, 10:15

Saturday

Philadelphia at **Mets**, 4:10
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 4:05
Arizona at Tampa Bay, 6:10
Washington at Baltimore, 7:05
Cubs at Milwaukee, 7:10
Colorado at Minnesota, 7:10
Miami at St. Louis, 7:15
L.A. Dodgers at San Diego, 8:40
Atlanta at San Francisco, 9:05

POST SU DOKU **Puzzles on Page 38**

9	6	1	4	2	5	7	3	8
5	7	4	8	1	3	9	6	2
2	3	8	6	9	7	4	5	1
1	5	6	7	8	9	3	2	4
3	4	7	2	5	1	6	8	9
8	2	9	3	4	6	5	1	7
6	1	3	9	7	8	2	4	5
4	9	5	1	3	2	8	7	6
7	8	2	5	6	4	1	9	3

Solution to Very Easy #7,321

3	5	7	2	9	4	1	6	8
2	1	9	6	8	7	3	5	4
6	8	4	5	3	1	2	7	9
7	6	2	3	4	9	8	1	5
8	3	5	7	1	2	4	9	6
9	4	1	8	5	6	7	2	3
4	9	3	1	7	5	6	8	2
1	2	8	9	6	3	5	4	7
5	7	6	4	2	8	9	3	1

Solution to Difficult #7,111

Red Sox 6, Yankees 3

Yankees	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Goldschmidt dh	4	1	2	1	1	1	.301
Jones pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.220
Rice 1b	5	0	0	0	0	0	.281
Rosario 3b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.248
Bellinger cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.267
Domínguez rf	4	0	1	1	0	1	.230
Volpe ss	3	0	0	0	1	2	.260
Chisholm 2b	3	1	1	0	1	0	.228
Caballero lf	4	1	2	1	0	0	.259
Wells c	3	0	1	0	0	2	.165
Schuemann ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.188
Totals	**35**	**3**	**8**	**3**	**3**	**10**	

Boston	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Yoshida dh	3	1	0	0	1	1	.237
Eaton ph-dh	0	0	0	1	0	0	.250
Rafaela cf	4	1	1	1	1	1	.285
Abreu rf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.272
Contreras 1b	4	1	0	0	0	1	.276
Duran lf	3	0	1	1	0	0	.200
Durbin 3b	3	2	2	2	1	1	.224
Seigler 2b	4	0	2	0	0	1	.333
Monasterio pr-2b	0	1	0	0	0	0	.224
Narváez c	2	0	1	0	0	1	.205
Mayer ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.220
Totals	**31**	**6**	**7**	**5**	**3**	**10**	

Yankees	**100 100 100 —**	**3**	**8**	**4**
Boston	**000 040 02x —**	**6**	**7**	**0**

E: Wells (3), Schlittler (1), Rosario (6), De los Santos (1). **LOB:** New York 8, Boston 9. **2B:** Goldschmidt (9), Seigler (3). **HR:** Caballero (8), off Early; Durbin (6), off Schlittler. **RBIs:** Domínguez (8), Caballero (28), Goldschmidt (40), Duran (38), Durbin 2 (32), Eaton (4), Rafaela (35). **SB:** Rafaela (10), Caballero (18), Chisholm (24). **SF:** Duran. **S:** Narváez. **Runners left in scoring position:** New York 5 (Volpe, Rice 4); Boston 6 (Yoshida, Abreu, Duran 2, Mayer 2). **RISP:** New York 3 for 11; Boston 1 for 12.

Yankees	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Schlittler, L, 8-4	5.0	5	4	0	2	9	92	1.62
Blackburn	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	17	2.70
Hill	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	8	4.20
De los Santos	0.1	1	2	0	1	0	11	1.59
Yarbrough	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	9	3.90

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Early, W, 7-5	6.0	5	2	2	1	9	98	3.59
Weissert, H, 5	0.2	1	1	1	1	0	21	3.82
Coulombe, H, 6	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	3	4.50
Whitlock, H, 11	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	10	2.81
Chapman, S, 15-16	1.0	2	0	0	1	0	23	1.99

T: 2:58. **A:** 36,307 (37,755).

Rays 13, Royals 2

Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Jensen c	4	1	1	2	0	1	.244
Loftin 3b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.248
Caglianone 1b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.268
Thomas cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.220
Rojas 2b-ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.300
Perez dh	3	0	0	0	0	0	.201
Misner lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.286
Collins lf-2b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.225
Marte rf	1	1	0	0	2	1	.261
Tolbert ss-p	3	0	0	0	0	1	.241
Totals	**28**	**2**	**1**	**2**	**2**	**9**	

Tampa Bay	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Díaz dh	4	1	1	0	0	1	.331
Fortes ph-dh	1	1	1	1	0	0	.251
Aranda 1b	5	2	3	1	0	0	.287
Caminero 3b	5	3	3	6	0	1	.285
Palacios 2b	5	1	2	0	0	0	.241
Simpson lf	5	0	1	1	0	0	.264
Mullins cf	4	2	2	0	0	1	.204
Walls ss	3	2	1	0	1	1	.223
Mesa rf	3	1	1	3	1	1	.180
Feduccia c	4	0	0	1	0	0	.226
Totals	**39**	**13**	**15**	**13**	**2**	**5**	

Kansas City	**000 000 002 —**	**2**	**1**	**0**
Tampa Bay	**200 320 15x —**	**13**	**15**	**0**

LOB: Kansas City 1, Tampa Bay 4. **2B:** Simpson (6), Díaz (14), Aranda (12). **HR:** Jensen (11), off Kimbrel; Caminero 2 (18), off Lugo; Mesa (3), off Lugo; Caminero (19), off Tolbert. **RBIs:** Jensen 2 (42), Caminero 6 (43), Mesa 3 (8), Simpson (16), Aranda (54), Feduccia (8), Fortes (15). **SB:** Mullins (13). **Runners left in scoring position:** Kansas City 0; Tampa Bay 2 (Simpson, Mullins). **RISP:** Kansas City 0 for 0; Tampa Bay 5 for 11.

Kansas City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Lugo, L, 3-5	5.0	7	7	7	2	3	90	4.18
Strahm	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	15	5.96
Seabold	1.0	2	1	1	0	1	24	5.01
Tolbert	1.0	6	5	5	0	0	24	45.00

Tampa Bay	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Legumina	1.1	0	0	0	0	0	14	3.31
Seymour, W, 4-1	6.2	0	0	0	1	7	90	4.32
Kimbrel	1.0	1	2	2	1	2	25	5.85

T: 2:19. **A:** 14,276 (25,025).

Cubs 4, . Mets 3, 10 inn.

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Crow-Armstrong cf	5	0	2	1	0	1	.287
Conforto rf	4	1	1	1	0	1	.224
Dean rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.667
Kelly ph-c	1	0	0	0	0	0	.281
Busch 1b	5	0	1	0	0	1	.240
Bregman 3b	4	1	1	1	0	1	.244
Happ lf	4	0	1	1	0	2	.229
Hoerner 2b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.239
Ramirez dh	4	0	0	0	0	3	.265
Amaya c	3	0	0	0	1	1	.222
Shaw pr-rf	0	1	0	0	0	0	.246
Swanson ss	4	1	0	0	0	2	.199
Totals	**37**	**4**	**6**	**4**	**2**	**12**	

Mets	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Benge rf	5	0	1	0	1	1	.256
Bichette 3b	4	0	1	0	0	3	.254
Soto dh	3	0	1	0	2	0	.299
Vientos 1b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.217
Young lf	1	1	1	1	1	0	.242
Alvarez c	4	0	0	0	1	1	.258
Ewing cf	4	1	1	0	1	0	.261
Mauricio ss	5	0	1	0	0	1	.216
Melendez lf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.192
Wagaman ph-1b	3	1	1	2	0	0	.227
Baty 2b	5	0	1	0	0	2	.217
Totals	**39**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**6**	**8**	

Chicago	**000 003 000 1 —**	**4**	**6**	**1**
Mets	**000 002 100 0 —**	**3**	**9**	**2**

E: Swanson (5), Mauricio (2), Benge (4). **LOB:** Chicago 6, New York 14. **2B:** Bregman (11), Crow-Armstrong (13), Mauricio (1). **HR:** Wagaman (2), off Milner; Young (6), off Maton. **RBIs:** Conforto (15), Bregman (26), Happ (38), Crow-Armstrong (45), Wagaman 2 (4), Young (13). **SB:** Ewing (8). **Runners left in scoring position:** Chicago 3 (Ramirez, Busch, Happ); New York 8 (Soto 2, Baty, Mauricio, Vientos 2, Wagaman, Benge). **RISP:** Chicago 3 for 9; New York 2 for 12.

Chicago	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Boyd	4.2	4	0	0	4	4	76	5.02
Roberts	1.0	0	1	1	1	0	15	3.28
Milner	0.0	3	1	1	0	0	13	3.53
Maton, BS, 0-2	1.1	2	1	1	0	2	23	6.08
Thielbar	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	12	4.50
Webb, W, 2-2	1.0	0	0	0	1	0	20	3.67
Thornton, S, 1-1	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	10	2.86

Mets	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Peralta	5.2	5	3	0	1	5	98	4.53
Warren	1.1	0	0	0	1	2	25	2.56
Weaver	1.0	0	0	0	0	3	11	2.12
Williams	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	12	4.44
Raley, L, 2-3	1.0	1	1	0	0	1	17	2.40

T: 3:13. **A:** 36,035 (42,136).

Athletics 9, Giants 6

Athletics	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Bolte cf	5	1	3	0	0	0	.320
Kurtz 1b	4	0	0	1	1	3	.278
Langeliers dh	5	0	1	2	0	2	.264
Soderstrom lf	4	1	2	0	1	0	.246
Heim c	4	1	1	1	1	1	.243
Butler rf	5	2	2	1	0	1	.197
Muncy 3b	5	0	1	2	0	1	.229
McNeil 2b	4	2	3	1	0	0	.237
Williams ss	4	2	2	1	0	1	.306
Totals	**40**	**9**	**15**	**9**	**3**	**9**	

San Francisco	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Chapman 3b	2	0	1	0	2	0	.242
Eldridge 1b	3	1	0	0	1	0	.278
Schmitt 2b	4	1	1	0	0	0	.294
Devers dh	4	0	0	0	0	2	.235
Adames ss	3	2	1	1	1	1	.225
Lee rf	4	1	1	3	0	1	.332
Bericoto lf	4	1	1	2	0	2	.231
Susac c	2	0	0	0	0	1	.262
Haase ph-c	2	0	0	0	0	1	.200
Cox cf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.318
Gilbert ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.233
Totals	**32**	**6**	**5**	**6**	**4**	**10**	

Athletics	**000 020 214 —**	**9**	**15**	**0**
San Francisco	**000 105 000 —**	**6**	**5**	**0**

LOB: Athletics 8, San Francisco 3. **2B:** Williams (6), Butler (7). **3B:** Lee (3). **HR:** Adames (14), off Springs; Bericoto (3), off Sterner. **RBIs:** Williams (6), Kurtz (62), Langeliers 2 (42), McNeil (20), Heim (18), Butler (21), Muncy 2 (20), Adames (32), Lee 3 (30), Bericoto 2 (4). **SB:** Butler (6), Muncy (3). **RISP:** Athletics 6 for 15; San Francisco 2 for 3.

Athletics	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Springs	5.1	3	3	3	2	6	87	5.52
Krook, BS, 0-1	0.1	1	2	2	1	1	13	6.75
Sterner	0.1	1	1	1	0	1	7	4.17
Hartlieb, W, 1-0	2.0	0	0	0	1	1	25	1.80
Barnett, S, 2-2	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	13	1.23

San Francisco	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Roupp	6.0	6	2	2	1	6	108	4.07
Walker	0.2	2	2	2	0	0	7	5.66
Miller, H, 9	0.1	1	0	0	1	0	12	4.22
Smith, H, 1	1.0	2	1	1	0	2	25	2.08
Kilian, L, 2-4, BS, 5-7	0.2	4	4	4	1	1	23	3.97
Gage	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	10	3.91

T: 2:56. **A:** 33,089 (41,915).

Phillies 10, Nationals 5

Philadelphia	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Turner ss	5	1	2	0	0	2	.231
Schwarber dh	4	1	2	0	1	2	.255
Stubbs pr-dh	0	1	0	0	0	0	.167
Harper 1b	3	2	2	3	2	0	.269
Marsh lf	4	2	2	3	1	0	.324
Bohm 3b	4	0	0	1	0	2	.223
Stott 2b	4	0	0	0	1	2	.238
Realmuto c	5	1	1	1	0	0	.203
Rincones rf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.133
Hill ph-rf	3	1	2	2	0	1	.250
Crawford cf	5	1	2	0	0	1	.243
Totals	**39**	**10**	**13**	**10**	**5**	**10**	

Washington	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Wood dh	5	0	0	0	0	2	.260
Mead 3b	5	1	1	1	0	1	.223
Chaparro 1b	3	1	0	0	0	1	.184
Crews rf-cf	4	2	3	0	0	1	.230
Lile lf	4	1	2	1	0	1	.252
Young cf	3	0	1	2	0	0	.226
Abrams ph-ss	1	0	0	0	0	1	.286
Nuñez ss	2	0	1	1	1	1	.240
Tena ph-rf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.221
Vivas 2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.255
Ruiz c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.275
Totals	**36**	**5**	**8**	**5**	**1**	**12**	

Philadelphia	**000 002 305 —**	**10**	**13**	**2**
Washington	**401 000 000 —**	**5**	**8**	**0**

E: Realmuto (4), Bohm (6). **LOB:** Philadelphia 8, Washington 6. **2B:** Realmuto (8), Lile (17). **HR:** Marsh (12), off Cavalli; Harper (18), off Varland; Hill (6), off Varland; Mead (14), off Sánchez. **RBIs:** Marsh 3 (41), Harper 3 (47), Bohm (42), Realmuto (24), Hill 2 (13), Mead (39), Lile (38), Young 2 (30), Nuñez (27). **SB:** Young (8), Crawford (10), Marsh (8). **CS:** Crawford (3). **Runners left in scoring position:** Philadelphia 4 (Bohm 2, Realmuto 2); Washington 4 (Ruiz 2, Vivas 2). **RISP:** Philadelphia 2 for 7; Washington 3 for 10.

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Sánchez	5.0	7	5	5	1	6	92	2.13
Shugart	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	18	3.25
Alvarado	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	12	5.90
Kerkering, W, 5-0	1.0	1	0	0	0	2	11	2.93
Mayza	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	12	3.06

Washington	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Cavalli	6.0	5	2	2	1	7	97	4.00
Parker, H, 6	0.1	2	3	3	2	1	18	6.39
Beeter, BS, 6-10	0.2	0	0	0	2	0	18	3.33
Varland, L, 1-2	2.0	6	5	5	0	2	28	6.25

T: 2:57. **A:** 28,919 (41,376).

Astros 2, Tigers 1

Houston	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Peña ss	4	1	2	0	0	1	.290
Alvarez dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.318
Paredes 3b	3	0	0	1	0	0	.245
Walker 1b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.234
Altuve 2b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.235
Delgado 2b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.286
Loperfido lf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.236
Matthews ph-lf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Smith rf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.221
Trammell cf	2	1	1	1	0	0	.280
Meyers ph-cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.203
Vázquez c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.213
Totals	**31**	**2**	**5**	**2**	**0**	**7**	

Detroit	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
McGonigle dh	4	0	1	0	0	2	.282
Carpenter rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.219
Dingler c	3	1	1	1	1	2	.268
Greene lf	4	0	2	0	0	1	.292
Keith 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.251
Torkelson 1b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.209
McKinstry ss	3	0	0	0	0	1	.179
Outman cf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.157
Lee 2b	3	0	1	0	0	2	.252
Totals	**31**	**1**	**5**	**1**	**1**	**13**	

Houston	**000 001 001 —**	**2**	**5**	**0**
Detroit	**000 000 001 —**	**1**	**5**	**0**

LOB: Houston 3, Detroit 4. **HR:** Trammell (2), off Melton; Dingler (19), off De Los Santos. **RBIs:** Trammell (9), Paredes (41), Dingler (57). **SB:** Peña (8). **SF:** Paredes. **Runners left in scoring position:** Houston 0; Detroit 0. **RISP:** Houston 0 for 1; Detroit 0 for 0.

Houston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Imai, W, 5-3	6.0	2	0	0	1	10	96	5.36
Blubaugh, H, 5	2.0	1	0	0	0	3	25	3.66
De Los Santos, S, 5-7	1.0	2	1	1	0	0	10	4.79

Detroit	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Melton, L, 4-1	6.0	2	1	1	0	6	88	2.39
Finnegan	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	13	1.89
Holton	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	18	3.41
Jansen	1.0	2	1	1	0	0	15	4.26

T: 2:23. **A:** 25,066 (41,083).

Rangers 6, Blue Jays 5

Texas	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Pederson dh	3	2	2	1	2	0	.248
Langford cf	5	1	1	3	0	1	.268
Seager ss	3	1	0	0	2	0	.183
Nimmo rf	3	0	0	0	1	1	.265
Burger 1b	4	1	2	2	0	1	.255
Duran 3b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.261
Osuna lf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.260
Higashioka c	3	0	2	0	1	0	.233
Lopez 2b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.311
Totals	**33**	**6**	**10**	**6**	**6**	**5**	

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Springer dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.219
Clement ss-2b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.294
Guerrero 1b	4	0	0	0	0	2	.273
Okamoto 3b	4	2	2	2	0	0	.241
Kirk c	4	1	1	0	0	0	.196
Lukes rf-cf	2	1	0	0	1	1	.297
Valenzuela ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.250
Schneider lf	2	0	0	1	0	2	.155
Straw cf	2	0	1	2	0	0	.246
Giménez ph-ss	1	0	0	0	0	0	.231
Urías 2b	2	0	0	0	0	0	.333
Sánchez ph-rf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.277
Totals	**31**	**5**	**6**	**5**	**1**	**8**	

Texas	**105 000 000 —**	**6**	**10**	**0**
Toronto	**000 030 002 —**	**5**	**6**	**0**

LOB: Texas 6, Toronto 1. **2B:** Straw (6). **HR:** Pederson (12), off Gausman; Langford (8), off Gausman; Burger (14), off Gausman; Okamoto (18), off Latz. **RBIs:** Pederson (28), Langford 3 (20), Burger 2 (48), Schneider (12), Straw 2 (12), Okamoto 2 (51). **SF:** Schneider. **Runners left in scoring position:** Texas 3 (Seager 2, Duran); Toronto 1 (Springer). **RISP:** Texas 1 for 5; Toronto 1 for 3.

Texas	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Gore, W, 5-6	7.0	4	3	3	1	5	98	4.05
Junis, H, 10	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	18	2.14
Latz, S, 15-17	1.0	2	2	2	0	2	25	1.89

Toronto	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Gausman, L, 4-6	6.0	10	6	6	2	4	99	4.36
Woods Richardson	3.0	0	0	0	4	1	43	6.40

T: 2:33. **A:** 35,273 (39,150).

Pirates 5, Mariners 1

Seattle	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Crawford 3b	5	0	1	1	0	1	.223
Raleigh dh	4	0	1	0	1	3	.168
J.Rodríguez cf	5	0	1	0	0	1	.247
Naylor 1b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.258
Arozarena lf	3	0	1	0	1	0	.284
Raley rf	2	0	1	0	1	0	.238
Refsnyder ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.137
Robles rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.230
Young 2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.251
Garver c	2	1	0	0	1	0	.186
Emerson ss	3	0	0	0	1	1	.206
Totals	**32**	**1**	**6**	**1**	**6**	**7**	

Pittsburgh	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg
Mangum cf-lf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.291
Lowe dh	4	1	2	2	0	1	.249
Reynolds lf-rf	3	1	1	0	1	2	.291
Gonzales 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.297
O'Hearn 1b	4	0	1	1	0	2	.285
Valdez rf	3	0	0	0	0	3	.152
Cook cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.154
Callihan 2b	3	0	0	0	0	2	.255
Triolo ss	3	1	1	0	0	0	.228
Davis c	3	2	2	2	0	0	.148
Totals	**32**	**5**	**8**	**5**	**1**	**13**	

Seattle	**000 010 000 —**	**1**	**6**	**0**
Pittsburgh	**102 000 02x —**	**5**	**8**	**1**

E: Triolo (6). **LOB:** Seattle 11, Pittsburgh 4. **2B:** Raleigh (5), Davis (5). **HR:** Lowe (19), off Miller; Davis (6), off Miller. **RBIs:** Crawford (24), Lowe 2 (51), Davis 2 (19), O'Hearn (45). **SB:** J.Rodríguez (11), Davis (2). **Runners left in scoring position:** Seattle 7 (Refsnyder 2, Emerson 2, Young 2, Naylor); Pittsburgh 1 (Cook). **RISP:** Seattle 1 for 10; Pittsburgh 2 for 5.

Seattle	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Miller, L, 3-2	5.2	5	3	3	0	11	90	1.97
Speier	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.89
Bazardo	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	8	1.98
Hoppe	1.0	3	2	2	1	1	20	6.38

Pittsburgh	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Chandler, W, 3-7	5.1	5	1	1	3	4	75	4.42
Sisk, H, 4	1.0	1	0	0	1	0	23	1.80
Ramírez, H, 4	0.1	0	0	0	2	0	13	3.89
Montgomery, H, 8	1.1	0	0	0	0	2	15	4.35
Soto	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	17	3.24

T: 2:35. **A:** 24,367 (38,753).

WNBA

East	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	12	5	.706	—
Liberty	12	7	.632	1
Indiana	10	8	.556	2½
Toronto	9	9	.500	3½
Washington	8	8	.500	3½
Chicago	5	12	.294	7
Connecticut	3	15	.167	9½

West	W	L	Pct.	GB
Minnesota	14	4	.778	—
Las Vegas	13	5	.722	1
Dallas	11	7	.611	3
Golden State	11	7	.611	3
Los Angeles	8	9	.471	5½
Portland	8	10	.444	6
Phoenix	6	13	.316	8½
Seattle	4	15	.211	10½

Thursday
Seattle 99, **Liberty** 88
Toronto 125, Los Angeles 97
Las Vegas 99, Dallas 84

Friday
Portland at Chicago, 7:30pm
Washington at Connecticut, 7:30pm
Atlanta at Golden State, 10pm

Saturday
Phoenix at Toronto, 2pm
Los Angeles at Indiana, 8pm
Atlanta at Seattle, 9pm

Sunday
Liberty at Golden State, 7pm
Minnesota at Dallas, 2pm
Portland at Washington, 3pm
Las Vegas at Chicago, 4pm

Storm 99, Liberty 88

Liberty

	Min	FG	FT	O-Rb	A	PF	Pts
Fiebich	30:44	6-12	4-5	1-2	2	2	19
Laney-Hamilton	21:17	1-5	0-0	0-5	0	3	3
Jones	30:15	10-17	3-7	2-8	1	1	26
Astier	25:17	1-5	1-1	0-1	5	3	3
Ionescu	29:16	5-12	3-3	0-2	5	4	14
Johannes	18:36	2-7	0-0	0-1	2	1	6
Carrera	16:48	3-4	1-2	3-5	0	0	7
Xu	14:19	4-7	0-0	0-0	2	0	8
Gardner	13:28	0-2	2-2	1-4	4	1	2
Totals	200:00	32-71	14-20	7-28	21	15	88

Percentages: FG .451, FT .700. **3-point goals:** 10-36, .278 (Fiebich 3-6, Jones 3-8, Johannes 2-7, Laney-Hamilton 1-4, Ionescu 1-7, Astier 0-1, Carrera 0-1, Xu 0-2). **Team rebounds:** 10. **Team turnovers:** 3. **Blocked shots:** 3 (Gardner, Jones, Xu). **Turnovers:** 13 (Johannes 3, Laney-Hamilton 3, Astier 2, Ionescu 2, Carrera, Fiebich, Jones). **Steals:** 9 (Astier 3, Fiebich 2, Gardner, Ionescu, Jones, Xu). **Technicals:** None.

Seattle

	Min	FG	FT	O-Rb	A	PF	Pts
Fam	33:01	6-9	1-1	1-6	2	3	15
Johnson	32:40	11-23	2-4	4-9	2	4	28
Malonga	34:28	9-12	1-1	3-10	2	5	20
Hiedeman	33:25	5-12	0-0	0-0	3	1	11
Melbourne	25:19	6-11	6-7	0-2	7	2	18
Samuelson	13:12	1-1	0-0	2-5	2	1	2
Cooke	12:42	1-6	0-0	1-4	0	1	3
Dolson	12:31	0-1	2-2	1-2	0	4	2
Thierry	2:42	0-0	0-0	1-1	0	0	0
Totals	200:00	39-75	12-15	13-39	18	21	99

Percentages: FG .520, FT .800. **3-point goals:** 9-28, .321 (Johnson 4-10, Fam 2-3, Malonga 1-2, Cooke 1-3, Hiedeman 1-6, Dolson 0-1, Melbourne 0-3). **Team rebounds:** 7. **Team turnovers:** 1. **Blocked shots:** 3 (Fam, Johnson, Malonga). **Turnovers:** 15 (Fam 3, Dolson 2, Hiedeman 2, Johnson 2, Malonga 2, Melbourne 2, Cooke, Samuelson). **Steals:** 8 (Johnson 3, Hiedeman 2, Melbourne 2, Cooke). **Technicals:** None.

Liberty	24	16	20	28—	88
Seattle	28	20	24	27—	99

A: 11,968 (15,354). **T:** 1:50.

Golf

PGA Tour- Travelers Championship
At TPC River Highlands; Cromwell, Conn.; Purse: $20 million; Yardage: 6,844; Par: 70
First Round

Eric Cole	33-30	63	-7
Bud Cauley	33-31	64	-6
Nicolas Echavarria	34-30	64	-6
Matt Fitzpatrick	32-32	64	-6
Ben Griffin	31-33	64	-6
Kristoffer Reitan	32-32	64	-6
Scottie Scheffler	31-33	64	-6
Patrick Cantlay	34-31	65	-5
Corey Conners	32-33	65	-5
Viktor Hovland	34-31	65	-5
Aaron Rai	32-33	65	-5
Justin Rose	32-33	65	-5
Brandt Snedeker	33-32	65	-5
Akshay Bhatia	33-33	66	-4
Sam Burns	32-34	66	-4
Harris English	33-33	66	-4
Brian Harman	31-35	66	-4
Russell Henley	33-33	66	-4
J.J. Spaun	35-31	66	-4
Keegan Bradley	32-35	67	-3
Tommy Fleetwood	37-30	67	-3
Harry Hall	33-34	67	-3
Tom Hoge	32-35	67	-3
Robert MacIntyre	33-34	67	-3
Hideki Matsuyama	35-32	67	-3
Denny McCarthy	34-33	67	-3
Maverick McNealy	34-33	67	-3
Andrew Novak	35-32	67	-3
Taylor Pendrith	34-33	67	-3
J.T. Poston	35-32	67	-3
Xander Schauffele	33-34	67	-3
Brian Campbell	33-35	68	-2
Wyndham Clark	34-34	68	-2
Ryan Gerard	35-33	68	-2
Ryo Hisatsune	34-34	68	-2
Sungjae Im	32-36	68	-2
Benjamin James	32-36	68	-2
Michael Kim	34-34	68	-2
Min Woo Lee	33-35	68	-2
Shane Lowry	35-33	68	-2
Keith Mitchell	33-35	68	-2
Sam Stevens	33-35	68	-2
Jackson Suber	34-34	68	-2
Nick Taylor	32-36	68	-2
Justin Thomas	34-34	68	-2
Lucas Glover	37-38	75	+5

LPGA Tour- KPMG Women's PGA Championship
At Hazeltine; Chaska, Minn.; Purse: $13 million; Yardage: 6,760; Par: 72
First Round

Ina Yoon	31-32	63	-9
Karis Davidson	33-32	65	-7
A Lim Kim	34-33	67	-5
Alexa Pano	36-31	67	-5
Hye Jin Choi	33-35	68	-4
Megan Khang	34-34	68	-4
Aline Krauter	34-34	68	-4
Ayaka Furue	35-34	69	-3
Brooke Henderson	36-33	69	-3
Esther Henseleit	34-35	69	-3
Wei-Ling Hsu	35-34	69	-3
Nanna Koerstz Madsen	35-34	69	-3
Alison Lee	34-35	69	-3
Dongeun Lee	33-36	69	-3
Andrea Lee	35-34	69	-3
Jeeno Thitikul	37-32	69	-3
Jing Yan	37-32	69	-3
Amy Yang	33-36	69	-3
Isi Gabsa	34-36	70	-2
Nataliya Guseva	34-36	70	-2
Nasa Hataoka	37-33	70	-2
Aki Iwai	35-35	70	-2
Nelly Korda	35-35	70	-2
Jessica Porvasnik	35-35	70	-2
Suvichaya Vinijchaitham	37-33	70	-2
Dewi Weber	34-36	70	-2
Pajaree Anannarukarn	36-35	71	-1
Allisen Corpuz	36-35	71	-1
Olivia Cowan	34-37	71	-1
Perrine Delacour	35-36	71	-1
Hyo Joo Kim	37-34	71	-1
Auston Kim	36-35	71	-1
Somi Lee	34-37	71	-1
Minjee Lee	36-35	71	-1
Gaby Lopez	37-34	71	-1
Nastasia Nadaud	35-36	71	-1
Yuna Nishimura	37-34	71	-1
Lizette Salas	34-37	71	-1
Hinako Shibuno	33-38	71	-1
Jenny Shin	33-38	71	-1
Patty Tavatanakit	38-33	71	-1
Angel Yin	35-36	71	-1
Ruoning Yin	38-33	71	-1
Weiwei Zhang	36-35	71	-1
Robyn Choi	36-36	72	E
Manon De Roey	38-34	72	E
Amanda Doherty	39-33	72	E
Isabella Fierro	34-38	72	E
Hannah Green	37-35	72	E
Jiwon Jeon	38-34	72	E
Soo Bin Joo	36-36	72	E
Moriya Jutanugarn	34-38	72	E
MinJi Kang	37-35	72	E
Minami Katsu	37-35	72	E
Grace Kim	36-36	72	E

DP World Tour- DS Automobiles 83° Open d*Italia
At Circolo Golf Torino; Fiano, Italy; Purse: $3 million; Yardage: 7,214; Par: 71
First Round

Edoardo Molinari,	34-29	63	-8
Joaquin Niemann,	31-33	64	-7
Nacho Elvira,	34-31	65	-6
Kazuma Kobori,	32-33	65	-6
Guido Migliozzi,	31-34	65	-6
Rocco Repetto Taylor,	32-33	65	-6
Tom Vaillant,	33-32	65	-6

Tennis

WTA Bad Homburg Open

At Bad Homburg Tennis Club; Hamburg, Germany; Purse: Euro1,049,083; Surface: Grass; (seedings in parentheses):

Women's Singles - Quarterfinals

Naomi Osaka (6), Japan, def. Ekaterina Alexandrova, Russia, 6-2, 6-2.

Elena-Gabriela Ruse, Romania, def. Emma Navarro, United States, 6-4, 6-2.

Women's Doubles - Quarterfinals

Olivia Nicholls, Britain, and Tereza Mihalikova (2), Slovakia, def. Venus Williams, United States, and Alexandra Eala, Philippines, 6-3, 6-2.

Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, and Wang Xinyu, China, def. Emily Webley-Smith, Britain, and Tamara Korpatsch, Germany, 6-4, 6-3.

Vera Zvonareva, Russia, and Aldila Sutjiadi, Indonesia, def. Andreja Klepac and Nika Radisic, Slovenia, 6-1, 6-2.

Eastbourne Open

At Devonshire Park Lawn Tennis Club; Eastbourne, Great Britain; Purse: Euro773,465; Surface: Grass; (seedings in parentheses):

Men's Singles - Quarterfinals

Toby Samuel, Britain, def. Juan Manuel Cerundolo (8), Argentina, 6-3, 6-4.

Zizou Bergs, Belgium, def. Jan Choinski, Britain, 6-3, 6-3.

Jack Draper, Britain, def. Gabriel Diallo, Canada, 6-1, 6-4.

Ugo Humbert (6), France, def. Quentin Halys, France, 6-3, 6-4.

Women's Singles - Quarterfinals

Jelena Ostapenko (3), Latvia, def. Zeynep Sonmez, Turkiye, 6-3, 6-0.

Madison Keys (2), United States, def. McCartney Kessler (7), United States, 6-3, 6-1.

Tatjana Maria, Germany, def. Tereza Valentova, Czechia, 6-3, 7-5.

Petra Marcinko, Croatia, def. Caty McNally, United States, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.

Men's Doubles - Semifinals

Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France, and Hugo Nys (4), Monaco, def. Luke Johnson, Britain, and Jan Zielinski, Poland, 6-4, 6-2.

Guido Andreozzi, Argentina, and Manuel Guinard (3), France, def. Christian Harrison, United States, and Neal Skupski (2), Britain, 6-4, 6-7 (6), 12-10.

Women's Doubles - Quarterfinals

Maia Lumsden, Britain, and Isabelle Haverlag, Netherlands, def. Eudice Chong, Hong Kong, China, and Janice Tjen, Indonesia, 6-4, 3-6, 10-7.

Jesika Maleckova and Miriam Skoch, Czechia, def. Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, and Sofia Kenin (3), United States, walkover.

ATP World Tour Mallorca Championships

At Santa Ponca; Mallorca, Spain; Purse: Euro612,620; Surface: Grass; (seedings in parentheses):

Men's Singles - Quarterfinals

Ethan Quinn, United States, def. Vit Kopriva, Czechia, 5-7, 7-5, 6-3.

Nuno Borges, Portugal, def. Luciano Darderi (1), Italy, 7-6 (1), 6-4.

Fabian Marozsan, Hungary, def. Miomir Kecmanovic, Serbia, 6-4, 6-3.

Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (2), Spain, def. Grigor Dimitrov, Bulgaria, 6-3, 6-3.

Men's Doubles - Quarterfinals

Adam Pavlasek and Patrik Rikl, Czechia, def. Robert Galloway and Vasil Kirkov, United States, 6-2, 6-4.

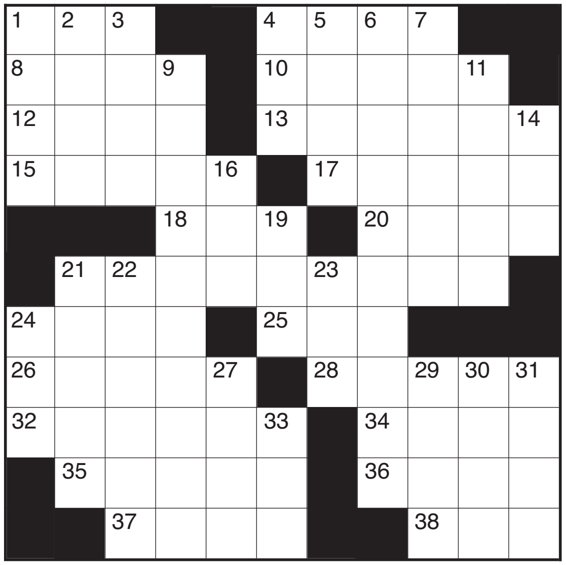
Evan King, United States, and Andre Goransson, Sweden, def. Marcelo Demoliner, Brazil, and N. Sriram Balaji, India, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 10-5.

Albano Olivetti and Theo Arribage (4), France, def. Santiago Gonzalez, Mexico, and Maximo Gonzalez, Argentina, 7-6 (5), 6-3.

Robin Haase, Netherlands, and Constantin Frantzen, Germany, def. Marcelo Melo, Brazil, and Andres Molteni, Argentina, 3-6, 6-3, 12-10.

SPORTSCROSS

6/26



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ACROSS
1 Fifth periods
4 Statistics e.g.
8 Track competition
10 67-year-old who made the cut at the PGA's Westchester Open in 1979
12 Golfer Aoki
13 Jump ship
15 Sprain for Francisco Alvarez in 2025
17 Scorer Stoudemire
18 1970s ABA & NBA forward Kennedy
20 Italian homer call
21 Gerrit Cole
24 NY Giants radio play-by-play man
25 AL president Johnson 1901-27
26 Kevin Grevey
28 Brian Daboll
32 Thunder's ancestor
34 Benjamin N. Cardozo HS
35 Krstic on the court
36 1892 Kentucky Derby winner
37 Ole Miss squad
38 Crew member

DOWN
1 Leave out
2 John won Emmys for his music on sports telecasts
3 Junior
4 Garden trio
5 Dwarf buffalo
6 Jordi Fernandez's squad 2023-25
7 CC Sabathia signed a letter of intent to play football there
9 Only pitcher to win his 300th game in a Mets uniform
11 Astro who led the NL in fielding average in 1987 & 1988
14 "The Lip"
16 Nets owner in the ABA & NBA
19 The first legal one opened in NYC in 1971
21 Butler in the NBA 2002-16
22 First pitcher
23 "Cool!"
24 Some prep players
27 Orlando Cabrera
29 Clown
30 Cornell who founded Cornell
31 Fly high
33 Radical campus org.

SOLUTION IN SATURDAY'S POST

MLS

EAST	W	L	D	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	10	1	3	33	31	11
Inter Miami CF	9	2	4	31	39	28
Chicago	8	4	2	26	27	16
New England	8	5	1	25	22	18
Red Bulls	6	5	4	22	25	32
Charlotte FC	6	6	3	21	24	23
Cincinnati	5	5	5	20	36	37
NYCFC	5	6	4	19	25	21
D.C. United	4	5	6	18	21	25
Columbus	4	7	4	16	21	23
CF Montréal	4	8	2	14	22	31
Orlando City	4	9	2	14	23	44
Toronto FC	3	6	5	14	22	29
Atlanta	3	9	2	11	14	23
Philadelphia	1	10	4	7	18	30

WEST	W	L	D	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	10	2	2	32	34	12
San Jose	10	3	2	32	34	15
Real Salt Lake	8	4	2	26	26	19
FC Dallas	7	4	4	25	30	22
Los Angeles FC	7	5	3	24	24	17
Seattle FC	7	3	3	24	17	11
Houston	7	6	1	22	19	23
Minn. United	6	5	4	22	18	22
LA Galaxy	5	5	5	20	22	22
San Diego FC	4	6	5	17	30	27
Colorado	5	9	1	16	25	24
St Louis City	4	6	4	16	16	20
Portland	4	8	2	14	22	28
Austin FC	3	7	5	14	19	31
Sporting K.C.	3	9	2	11	14	36

Note: 3 pts. for win, 1 for tie

Thursday, July 16
Toronto FC at CF Montréal, 7:30pm
Vancouver at Chicago, 8:30pm
Sporting K.C. at St Louis City, 8:30pm
Portland at Seattle FC, 10:30pm

N.Y. Rangers Pre-Season Schedule

Monday, Sept. 21: at Devils, 7pm
Tuesday, Sept. 22: Islanders, 7pm
Thursday, Sept. 24: Devils, 7pm
Friday, Sept. 25: at Islanders, 7pm

N.Y. Islanders Pre-Season Schedule

Sunday, Sept. 20: at Devils, 1pm
Tuesday, Sept. 22: at Rangers, 7pm
Thursday, Sept. 25: Rangers, 7pm
Saturday, Sept. 26: Devils, 7pm

N.J. Devils Pre-Season Schedule

Sunday, Sept. 20: Islanders, 1pm
Monday, Sept. 21: Rangers, 7pm
Thursday, Sept. 24: at Rangers, 7pm
Saturday, Sept. 26: at Islanders, 7pm

Gotham extends USWNT's Sonnett

By MADELINE KENNEY

Gotham FC ensured that U.S. women's national team defender Emily Sonnett isn't going anywhere anytime soon.

The reigning champions signed Sonnett to a contract extension that locks her up through the 2028 season, the club announced Thursday.

"I'm really excited to continue with Gotham FC," Sonnett said in a statement. "This is a special group that holds itself to a high standard every day. I'm looking forward to building on what we've started here."

It's no surprise that a championship-hungry club like Gotham wanted to extend Sonnett, who was named to the NWSL Best XI Second Team last season.

The 32-year-old played an integral part in Gotham winning last year's NWSL championship, including making the sliding stop of Leicy Santos' goal attempt in front of her team's net.

Thanks to Sonnett's stop and Rose Lavelle's incredible goal, Gotham earned its spot in this year's Challenge Cup, which is scheduled to take place Friday. Gotham is set to face the reigning NWSL Shield winner Kansas City Current in Columbus in the first opportunity of the season to win some hardware.

Sonnett is in her third season with Gotham, making eight appearances this season, including five starts.

The two-time Olympian cemented her spot as an anchor of the team's back line in 2025. Despite losing center back Tierna Davidson to a season-ending ACL tear in March, Gotham, with Sonnett's help, boasted one of the NWSL's top defenses.

The club conceded the second-fewest goals in the league, allowing only 25 scores in 26 matches. Gotham also set a club record of 11 clean sheets.

"Emily has been an essential part of our team's success," president of soccer operations Yael Averbuch West said. "Her quality, consistency and standard of excellence have been incredibly valuable to our group, and we're excited to have her continue with Gotham FC."

The POST Line

MLB
Friday

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
Yankees	-102-119	RED SOX
METS	OFF	Phillies
Astros	-101-121	TIGERS
Rangers	-106-116	BLUE JAYS
Mariners	-108-114	GUARDIANS
WHITE SOX	OFF	Royals
Athletics	$100-118	ANGELS
PIRATES	$184-220	Reds
BREWERS	$215-260	Cubs
Marlins	$100-122	CARDINALS
Dodgers	$127-156	PADRES
GIANTS	OFF	Braves
ORIOLES	$120-142	Nationals
Diamondbacks	-102-116	RAYS
TWINS	$138-169	Rockies

Home team in CAPS

WNBA
Friday

Favorite	PTS (O/U)	Underdog
Mystics	5.5 (163.5)	SUN
SKY	4.5 (173.5)	Fire
VALKYRIES	1.5 (162.5)	Dream

FIFA World Cup
Friday

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
*France	$160-375	Norway
**Senegal	$450-1000	Iraq
***Saudi Arabia	$160-165	Cape Verde
****Spain	$200-550	Uruguay
*****Egypt	$138-260	Iran
*****Belgium	$550-1250	New Zealand

*Foxborough, Mass., **Toronto, ***Houston, ****Guadalajara, *****Seattle, ******Vancouver

Saturday

Favorite	Money Line	Underdog
*Croatia	$130-400	Ghana
**England	$600-1250	Panama
***Portugal	$120-320	Colombia
****Congo	$135-333	Uzbekistan
*****Austria	$180-275	Algeria
******Canada	$145-400	South Africa

*Philadelphia, **MetLife Stadium, ***Miami Gardens, Fla., ****Atlanta, *****Kansas City, Mo., ******Arlington, Tx.

TOP PLAY

Tie one on with French

By ERICH RICHTER

In the early Friday window of World Cup matches, France has a meaningful game against Norway if it wants to win Group I.

Les Bleus are looking to win all three group-stage games for the first time since their 1998 title run and the second time in their World Cup history.

The French came in as one of the best teams in the world, and they've lived up to that billing thus far as they are -160 favorites to win the match on the three-way moneyline.

France needs only a tie to win the group on goal differential, while Norway needs a win. It's a tough ask for the Vikings, as they come in as +310 underdogs. Interestingly, FanDuel has draw at +410, by far the highest line on the betting market.

Still, France will want to win this match, considering the historical outcomes.

The Kylian Mbappé-led group has tons of movement from its right backs, led by Theo Hernández and Jules Koundé, which will give Norway serious trouble on defense.

The Vikings have a solid offense led by striker Erling Haaland, and they love pushing the pace in transition and finishing ahead of trailing defenders that are left in the dust.

I'll take a draw at big odds and the French to win the group as a result.

THE PLAY: Draw (+410, FanDuel).

Pitching Form

		(Game time)	2026			'25 vs OPP		CAREER	LAST 3 STARTS		
			W-L	ERA	*REC	W-L	ERA	vs OPP	W-L	IP	ERA
Yankees	Warren (R)		7-2	3.45	12-3	0-0	0.00	1-2	0-1	14.0	4.50
Red Sox	Tolle (L)	(7:10pm)	3-5	3.08	3-8	0-0	1.50	0-0	0-3	17.0	5.29
Phillies	Wheeler (R)		7-1	2.11	9-2	1-0	3.18	6-5	2-0	17.2	1.53
Mets	TBD	(7:10pm)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nationals	Alvarez (L)		1-0	3.34	2-2	0-0	6.00	0-0	0-0	12.0	3.00
Orioles	Rogers (L)	(7:05pm)	4-7	5.30	5-9	0-0	0.00	3-5	1-1	18.2	2.41
D'backs	TBD		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rays	Martinez (R)	(7:10pm)	6-2	2.73	11-4	1-0	1.50	2-0	1-0	18.1	4.42
Rockies	Sugano (R)		8-4	4.31	10-5	0-1	5.68	0-1	3-0	16.0	5.62
Twins	Bradley (R)	(8:10pm)	6-3	4.11	8-6	1-0	3.00	1-0	1-1	16.0	6.19
Astros	Arrighetti (R)		7-3	3.13	9-3	0-0	0.00	0-2	0-2	18.0	6.50
Tigers	Montero (R)	(6:40pm)	3-5	3.68	6-8	0-1	6.75	0-1	1-1	18.1	3.44
Rangers	Eovaldi (R)		7-7	4.24	8-7	1-0	2.00	2-3	2-1	18.2	4.82
Blue Jays	Corbin (L)	(7:07pm)	2-3	4.73	7-7	0-0	0.00	2-0	0-1	10.1	8.71
Mariners	Castillo (R)		2-6	5.22	4-8	0-0	0.00	0-3	0-1	15.1	1.76
Guardians	Cantillo (L)	(7:10pm)	6-3	4.05	12-4	0-0	4.91	0-0	2-1	18.0	4.50
Royals	Kolek (R)		4-2	4.15	6-3	0-0	9.64	0-0	1-1	14.0	6.43
White Sox	TBD	(7:40pm)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Athletics	Ginn (R)		5-4	3.16	11-6	1-1	5.00	1-3	2-1	17.0	4.76
Angels	Ureña (R)	(9:38pm)	5-5	2.41	6-6	1-0	0.00	1-0	2-1	17.0	1.59
Reds	Abbott (L)		5-4	3.83	9-7	0-1	6.35	2-1	1-1	16.0	2.81
Pirates	Skenes (R)	(6:40pm)	6-7	2.86	6-10	1-0	1.80	5-0	0-2	18.0	3.00
Cubs	TBD		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brewers	Misiorowski (R)	(7:45pm)	8-3	1.45	9-6	1-0	0.00	1-1	2-1	22.0	0.82
Marlins	Meyer (R)		8-0	2.80	12-4	0-0	3.38	1-0	2-0	16.1	2.76
Cardinals	May (R)	(8:15pm)	5-6	4.30	8-7	1-0	1.69	3-1	2-0	17.0	3.18
Dodgers	Sasaki (R)		3-4	4.76	6-7	0-0	0.00	0-0	0-1	17.0	5.29
Padres	Buehler (R)	(9:45pm)	4-3	3.96	10-5	0-0	5.79	0-0	1-0	15.0	1.80
Braves	López (R)		3-1	3.50	4-1	0-0	0.00	0-0	0-1	10.2	5.91
Giants	McDonald (R)	(10:15pm)	2-5	4.93	4-5	0-0	0.00	0-0	0-2	11.2	6.17

*** REC:** Won-lost record of pitcher's team in games he has started.

SPORTS SHORTS

MLB: League makes new proposals

Major League Baseball proposed limiting most free agent contracts to five years and 15 percent of a team's salary cap and to eliminate deferred compensation, fleshing out details of a salary cap plan likely to spark a confrontation with the players association.

MLB's plan would eliminate deals such as **Juan Soto**'s $765 million, 15-year contract with the Mets. The league said just seven players this year exceed the proposed maximum and 98 percent of free agent contracts would not have been impacted.

"There's no question that we're very far apart," union head **Bruce Meyer** said during an online news conference.

During a bargaining session Thursday at the union's office, MLB said it would accept the union's proposal granting free agency a year early for players who have reached age 30 if the union accepted the league's salary cap system.

● In Washington, **Bryce Harper**'s tie-breaking two-run homer ignited a five-run ninth inning as the Phillies erupted late once again to defeat the Nationals 10-5.

● In St. Petersburg, Fla., **Junior Caminero** hit three home runs and drove in six runs, **Victor Mesa Jr.** added a three-run homer and three pitchers combined for 8 1/3 no-hit innings to lead the Rays to a 13-2 victory against the Royals.

● In Pittsburgh, **Brandon Lowe** hit his team-leading 19th home run of the season and **Henry Davis** had a two-run blast as the Pirates beat the Mariners 5-1.

● In San Francisco, **Jonah Heim**'s RBI single tied the game, **Lawrence Butler** followed with a go-ahead RBI hit and the Athletics scored four times with two out in the ninth inning, rallying for a 9-6 win over the Giants.

NHL: Devils make two trades

The Devils made a few trades before the first round of Friday's draft.

New Jersey sent a fourth-round selection to the Wings for 23-year-old center **Amadeus Lombardi**, who had 42 points last season for Grand Rapids in the AHL. Then the Devils sent a fourth-round pick in the 2027 draft to acquire defenseman **Declan Chisolm** from Washington.

● The Blue Jackets made a big addition on the eve of the draft by acquiring do-it-all winger **Valeri Nichushkin** in a trade with the Avalanche. The Blue Jackets sent the 43rd pick this weekend, a third-rounder next year and a fifth-rounder in 2028 to Colorado.

● The Panthers ensured they would not lose any of their grit with A.J. Greer expected to leave in free agency by acquiring **Garnet Hathaway** from the Flyers in a trade. Florida sent a fifth-round pick in the draft Saturday and a fourth-rounder next year to Philadelphia for the 34-year-old winger.

● The Capitals made another move during their busy week, sending pending restricted free agent forward **Hendrix Lapierre** to rival Pittsburgh. The Penguins traded a 2027 third-round pick and a 2028 fifth-rounder for the 24-year-old.

GOLF: Cole takes one-shot lead

Eric Cole returned to the TPC River Highlands in much better shape than he left last year, pitching in for eagle from 65 yards on the par-5 13th and posting a 7-under 63 to take a one-shot lead over **Scottie Scheffler** and five others in the Travelers Championship in Cromwell, Conn.

● In Chaska, Minn., **Ina Yoon** matched the best score in the history of the Women's PGA Championship with a 9-under 63 to take a two-stroke lead over **Karis Davidson**.

STITCHES

Reds roll past skidding Skenes

The untouchable Paul Skenes has been touched hard (and I don't mean by Olivia Dunne), and he's 0-5 in his last seven starts. Play $50 on Andrew Abbott and the Reds.

+$

The Royals have a long history of not showing up for big events. For instance. Prince Harry, Meghan Markle, The Earl of Wessex, Sir Loin of Beef.

Some show up where they shouldn't. Some take photos to prove they were there (see Prince Andrew). Then there are the Royals of K.C. First pitch: 12:10. Time of death: 12:17. That's when Seth Lugo served up a two-run homer to Junior Caminero. Lugo went on to give up seven runs, and the Rays crowned the Royals 13-2. ... That disaster over, we turned our attention to the Athletics and Giants. The A's were down 6-2 in the seventh, and it looked as though we were going to drop both ends of our double. Then ... the A's scored seven runs and stunned Frisco 9-6 to cut our losses! Split. Still up +62 queencamillas.

stitches@nypost.com

Home Team Lineups

HOME AWAY

	TODAY June 26	SAT June 27	SUN June 28	MON June 29	TUE June 30
	Boston 7:10 YES 660 AM 101.9 FM	Boston 1:10 ABC 660 AM 101.9 FM	Boston 7:20 NBC/Peacock 660 AM 101.9 FM	Detroit 7:05 YES 660 AM 101.9 FM	Detroit 7:05 Prime Video 660 AM 101.9 FM
	Philadelphia 7:10 PIX11 880 AM	Philadelphia 4:10 SNY 880 AM	Philadelphia 1:40 SNY 880 AM	Toronto 7:07 SNY 880 AM	Toronto 7:07 SNY 880 AM
	NO GAME	NO GAME	Golden State 7:00 ESPN	NO GAME	Las Vegas 7:00 Prime Video

Wednesday, July 22		Wednesday, July 22		Today	
	FIFA World Cup Break until July 22		FIFA World Cup Break until July 22		KC Current 8:00 Prime Video

Today's Sports on the Air

MLB BASEBALL		
7 p.m.	Mariners at Guardians	MLBN
7:10 p.m.	Yankees at Red Sox	YES, 660 AM, 101.9 FM
7:10 p.m.	Phillies at Mets	PIX11, 880 AM
7:30 p.m.	Cubs at Brewers	Apple TV
9:30 p.m.	Dodgers at Padres	Apple TV
10 p.m.	Braves at Giants	MLBN
NHL HOCKEY		
7 p.m.	2026 NHL Draft, 1st Round	ESPN
MEN'S SOCCER: FIFA WORLD CUP		
3 p.m.	Group Stage: Norway vs. France	Fox, Telemundo
3 p.m.	Group Stage: Senegal vs. Iraq	FS1, Universo
8 p.m.	Group Stage: Uruguay vs. Spain	Fox, Telemundo
8 p.m.	Group Stage: Cape Verde vs. Saudi Arabia	FS1, Universo
11 p.m.	Group Stage: New Zealand vs. Belgium	Fox, Telemundo
11 p.m.	Group Stage: Egypt vs. Iran	FS1, Universo
WOMEN'S SOCCER		
8 p.m.	Gotham FC at Kansas City Current	Prime Video
WNBA BASKETBALL		
7:30 p.m.	Mystics at Sun	ION
10 p.m.	Dream at Valkyries	ION
GOLF		
7 a.m.	DP World Tour: DS Automobiles 83° Open d'Italia, 2nd Round	Golf
11 a.m.	LPGA Tour: KPMG Women's PGA Championship, 2nd Round	Golf
3 p.m.	PGA Tour: Travelers Championship, 2nd Round	Golf
6 p.m.	LPGA Tour: KPMG Women's PGA Championship, 2nd Round	Golf
9 p.m.	PGA Tour Champions: DICK'S Open, 1st Round	Golf
CFL FOOTBALL		
9 p.m.	Toronto Argonauts at Saskatchewan Roughriders	CBSSN
AUTO RACING		
7:30 a.m.	Formula 1: Austrian Grand Prix, Practice	Apple TV
11 a.m.	Formula 1: Austrian Grand Prix, Practice	Apple TV
TENNIS		
6 a.m.	ATP/WTA Eastbourne, Semifinals	Tennis
6 a.m.	WTA Bad Homburg, Semifinals	Tennis
6 a.m.	ATP Mallorca, Semifinals	Tennis
MEN'S SOCCER		
6 p.m.	Canadian Premier League: Pacific FC at HFX Wanderers	FS2
SOFTBALL		
6 p.m.	Athletes Unlimited: Talons at Blaze	CBSSN
8 p.m.	Athletes Unlimited: Cascade at Volts	ESPNU
HORSE RACING		
Noon	FanDuel Racing	MSGSN
1 p.m.	America's Day at the Races	FS2
X GAMES		
8 p.m.	X Games Sacramento 2026: Day 1	ESPN2
RUGBY		
1 a.m. (Sat.)	NRL: New Zealand at Redcliffe	FS2
5 a.m. (Sat.)	World Rugby Junior Championships: Argentina vs. U.S.	CBSSN

ODDS & ENDS

WORLD CUP

Friday

Norway vs. France

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Norway	+370
Draw	+360
France	-165
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 2.5	-158
Under 2.5	+128

Senegal vs. Iraq

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Senegal	-450
Draw	+550
Iraq	12/1
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 3.5	+138
Under 3.5	-170

Cape Verde vs. Saudi Arabia

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Cape Verde	+165
Draw	+230
Saudi Arabia	+170
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 2.5	-110
Under 2.5	-134

Uruguay vs. Spain

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Uruguay	+600
Draw	+330
Spain	-210
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 2.5	-120
Under 2.5	-102

New Zealand vs. Belgium

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
New Zealand	15/1
Draw	+650
Belgium	-600
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 3.5	-104
Under 3.5	-118

Egypt vs. Iran

3-WAY BETTING	ODDS
Egypt	+145
Draw	+155
Iran	+280
TOTAL GOALS	**ODDS**
Over 2.5	+168
Under 2.5	-210

UFC

Saturday morning, Baku, Azerbaijan

FIGHTER	ODDS
Rafael Fiziev	-110
vs. Manuel Torres	-110
Shara Magomedov	-390
vs. Michel Pereira	+280
Nazim Sadykhov	-260
vs. Matheus Camilo	+196
Asu Almabayev	-265
vs. Charles Johnson	+200

BET SMART

It Fiz what it is: Go with the vet

By ERICH RICHTER

The UFC returns to the Middle East on Saturday for Fight Night in Baku, Azerbaijan.

It's a very early start time with the prelim card beginning at 9 a.m. ET and the main card starting at noon.

Finishes have been on an absolute tear since the White House card with 14 of the last 18 UFC fights ending by finish over the last two cards.

An obscene streak is reflected in the odds, as this card features 12 fights, 10 of which are projected to end inside the distance.

It might be time to buy the dip at UFC Fight Night Baku.

Rafael Fiziev vs. Manuel Torres

It's always good when the best fight on the card is the main event.

In the lightweight division, Torres faces off against Fiziev in a true pick 'em fight as there is no favorite at the time of writing.

Fiziev is the more proven fighter, while Torres comes in as the rising prospect who has won six of his seven fights in the first round.

Fiziev is a tough cookie, as he's one of the only fighters to go six full rounds with now-lightweight-champion Justin Gaethje and nearly win the fight.

He has lost four of his last five fights against the peak competition that the UFC has to offer, two of which to the current champion.

There's plenty of concern that Fiziev has accumulated too much damage to win against a madman like Torres, who has won so many fights in the first round.

But Fiziev survived against Gaethje and went the distance twice. I think Fiziev is the clear side here, and I'm not sure that Torres is as dominant as he appears, considering his level of competition.

Prediction: Fiziev moneyline (-110, Fanatics Sportsbook).

Shara Magomedov vs. Michel Pereira

I've always been a fan of Pereira, but it appears his best days are behind him at just 32 years of age.

"Bullet" Magomedov is a slam dunk every time he goes out there to mix in high volume with strong striking and maybe shoddy defense.

I don't think Pereira is the guy to expose Magomedov's defensive holes on the feet, and he doesn't have anywhere near the gas tank to proactively grapple.

Pereira's cardio is among the worst in the promotion, and Magomedov should be able to win here easily.

He's expected to win by knockout, but I don't think that's a fair number considering he couldn't even knock out Bruno Silva when they fought.

Regardless of how you shake it, Magomedov is the guy to anchor your parlays.

Prediction: Magomedov wins in Over 1.5 rounds (-120, DraftKings).

Rest of the card

Nazim Sadykhov vs. Matheus Camilo: Camilo by decision (+650, DraftKings).

Asu Almabayev vs. Charles Johnson: Almabayev by decision (+110, BetRivers).

Ikram Aliskerov vs. Brunno Ferreira: Fight goes the distance (+300, DraftKings).

Abus Magomedov vs. Michal Oleksiejczuk: Oleksiejczuk by decision (+480, BetRivers).

Farman Hasanov vs. Eric Nolan: Nolan by KO/TKO (+325, BetRivers).

Abdul Rakhman Yakhyaev vs. Julius Walker: Yakhyaev by submission (+155, Fanatics).

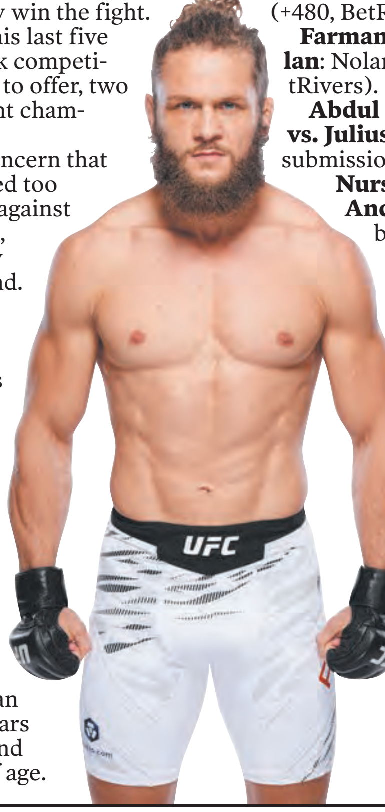
Nursulton Ruziboev vs. Andrey Pulyaev: Ruziboev by decision (+320, Fanatics).

Kaan Ofli vs. Javier Reyes: Reyes by KO/TKO (+240, FanDuel).

Daniil Donchenko vs. Theodor Berggren: Donchenko to win in round two (+350, FanDuel).

Bekzat Almakhan vs. Jean Matsumoto: Fight goes the distance (-167, BetRivers).

Tahir Abdullayev vs. Jefferson Nascimento: Nascimento moneyline (-105, FanDuel).



Rafael Fiziev

Getty Images

FULL PLATES

SUMMER HOME: The Sag Harbor Whalers of the Hamptons Collegiate Baseball League get ready in a wood shingle dugout at Mashashimuet Park.

Stefano Giovannini (2)

Hamptons League
Whalers

LI summer league isn't only about baseball for college stars

By ALEX MITCHELL

These future baseball stars are stealing a summer on the East End.

A-lister sightings, a pipeline to MLB, hanging with buds on boats are all guarantees in the Hamptons Collegiate Baseball League on the forks of Long Island.

"My friends are playing in leagues in the middle of nowhere. They're pretty miserable. But out here it's awesome," Seattle-born pitcher Lincoln Oelschlager of the Sag Harbor Whalers told The Post.

"It's probably the best place you'd be for summer ball," added the pitcher for southern California's Pomona College.

The Hamptons league is an MLB affiliate that's a local alternative to Cape Cod's iconic collegiate summer development league.

Like its New England counterpart, the Hamptons has produced a bevy of major leaguers, including Diamondbacks pitcher Corbin Burnes, in addition to 600 MLB drafted players — 112 of whom stepped onto a diamond in the majors.

A REAL HIT

The LI league is instrumental in identifying talent that may otherwise be overlooked, Riverhead Tomcats manager Kyle McLaughlin said.

"The Cape Cod League is the league where all of the high-end Division I players go, but here, you have more of a mix, you have anywhere from Division I to junior college guys," he said.

"This allows the opportunity for a lot of local Long Island players to kind of get into that same realm as the players who are in the Cape."

McLaughlin's team, along with the Westhampton Aviators, is specifically designated for Long Island-based collegiate players from area schools such as Hofstra, Adelphi, LIU and Stony Brook.

"I know my coach checks up on the league and the games and everything," said Richie Hieder, an outfielder who will play for the Seawolves next season.

"We have a couple of guys from the team here, so it's definitely good that they always want you getting that next level, getting that work in, and just staying ready."

The rest of the league — the Whalers, the Southampton Breakers, the North Fork Ospreys, and the Shelter Island Bucks — are anything but commuter style, though.

They welcome players from across the globe for an unforgettable summer, including Luis Takeshi Salto Miyajima, a native of Madrid, Spain.

The outfielder made his first trip to America to play with the Whalers, hit the water, see his first Mets game ... and try Raising Cane's chicken fingers.

Like almost all the out-of-town players, he resides with a host family for the summer, which almost always includes its own perks.

Teammate Tommy Shaw, who plays collegiately for the Castleton Spartans in Vermont, gets to dorm with a pal in Montauk and "hit the beach with the boys" in between their six-games-a-week, 36-game regular season.

"They've got a pretty nice golf course out there with Montauk Downs," Shaw said, adding he's gotten into the local basketball scene as well.

"Coming to the field every day with the boys, kicking it, playing ball. Can't complain," he added.

Oelschlager is no stranger to The Point either, as a friend's host dad also boats them out to Montauk for a luxurious day at sea.

KRUEL SUMMER

The dream teams are all thanks to league president Sandi Kruel, who finds players housing and jobs, such as giving lessons or landscaping in between games.

"It's a lot of door-knocking," said the Sag Harbor native, who's been the backbone of East End baseball for years as a labor of love.

Kruel's two sons were Whalers many moons ago, and her brother hand-built the charming wood shingle dugouts at their home field in Mashashimuet Park, where Carl Yastrzemski played in front of a Cooperstown-looking, green classic wooden grandstand as a boy.

Her efforts with the league won over Sag Harbor's extremely affluent locals — and plenty of A-listers with Long Island roots.

"Jerry Seinfeld used to come down all the time. He used to be a big donor for us," Kruel said of the Massapequa Park native.

Hicksville's Billy Joel is also known to chat it up with players at a local sushi joint, Sen, according to the president.

"He definitely talks to the kids on weekday afternoons having sushi ... and he'll have a great conversation with them."

Dwyane Wade, who bought a home on the North Fork, has shown up at a game, and both LeBron James and Kevin Love were once seen shooting hoops on a nearby court, said McLaughlin.

Kruel added that two teams once flocked from their dugouts to see Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck play tennis on a court behind right field in Sag Harbor.

But it's the local community that makes the players feel like the big shots in town.

"One of the best parts is the little kids," said Oelschlager.

"They think we're like big leaguers, which we're really not, but it makes you feel like a celebrity."

amitchell@nypost.com

CUP SURPRISE

Ashley Castanio-Gervasi (below) got a real kick out of this.

The Long Beach girls head soccer coach who made international headlines at Christmas over her on-and-off-and-on-again attempt at a $100K field goal at a Jets game, is returning to MetLife Stadium — this time for all the right reasons.

The former Stony Brook goalkeeper got the surprise of a lifetime while at her alma mater, watching USA put the hurt on Paraguay 4-1, when she was surprised with World Cup tickets for the Round of 16 from New York State.

"It's all funny that it came full circle there," she told The Post with a laugh.

Castanio-Gervasi joined a few other youth soccer coaches on a stage at her old field during a massive watch party, under the impression that she was getting a shoutout for her local contribution to the game.

Despite the shock, her moment of Gang Green infamy still stole the show when the handful got the news courtesy of the YMCA.

"It was funny because when I was on the stage, one of the other coaches was like, 'You look really familiar,' " she recalled. "Then he put two and two together."

Although being a coach was the insurance technicality that initially barred her from taking the kick that fell short last December, this time it was the reason she was selected after her mom sent in a video.

"Isn't that ironic?" said the mom-to-be, who once traveled to Canada to see the US women's team play. "Now soccer got me probably one of the most memorable experiences I'll have in my life with my mom at MetLife."

— Alex Mitchell

FIFA World Cup

GROUP A

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Mexico	3	2	0	0	3	0	6
y-South Africa	3	1	1	1	2	3	4
South Korea	3	1	0	2	2	3	3
Czechia	3	0	1	3	2	6	1

GROUP A
Thursday, June 11
Mexico 2, South Africa 0
South Korea 2, Czechia 1
Thursday, June 18
Czechia 1, South Africa 1
Mexico 1, South Korea 0
Wednesday
Mexico 3, Czechia 0
South Africa 1, South Korea 0

GROUP B

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Switzerland	3	2	1	0	7	3	7
y-Canada	3	1	1	1	8	3	4
Bosnia-Herzegovina	3	1	1	1	5	6	4
Qatar	3	0	1	2	2	10	1

GROUP B
Friday, June 12
Canada 1, Bosnia-Herzegovina 1
Saturday, June 13
Qatar 1, Switzerland 1
Thursday, June 18
Switzerland 4, Bosnia-Herzegovina 1
Canada 6, Qatar 0
Wednesday
Switzerland 2, Canada 1
Bosnia-Herzegovina 3, Qatar 1

GROUP C

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Brazil	3	2	1	0	7	1	7
y-Morocco	3	2	1	0	6	3	7
Scotland	3	1	0	1	1	4	3
Haiti	3	0	0	2	2	8	0

GROUP C
Saturday, June 13
Brazil 1, Morocco 1
Scotland 1, Haiti 0
Friday, June 19
Morocco 1, Scotland 0
Brazil 3, Haiti 0
Wednesday
Brazil 3, Scotland 0
Morocco 4, Haiti 2

GROUP D

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-United States	**3**	**2**	**0**	**1**	**8**	**4**	**6**
y-Australia	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Paraguay	3	1	0	1	2	4	4
Turkey	3	1	0	2	3	2	3

GROUP D
Friday, June 12
United States 4, Paraguay 1
Sunday, June 14
Australia 2, Turkey 0
Friday, June 19
United States 2, Australia 0
Paraguay 1, Turkey 0
Thursday
Turkey 3, **United States** 2
Paraguay 0, Australia 0

GROUP E

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Germany	3	2	0	1	10	4	6
y-Ivory Coast	3	2	0	1	4	2	6
y-Ecuador	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Curacao	3	0	1	2	1	9	1

GROUP E
Sunday, June 14
Germany 7, Curacao 1
Ivory Coast 1, Ecuador 0
Saturday, June 20
Germany 2, Ivory Coast 1
Ecuador 0, Curacao 0
Thursday
Ecuador 2, Germany 1
Ivory Coast 2, Curacao 0

GROUP F

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Netherlands	3	2	1	0	10	4	7
y-Japan	3	1	2	0	7	3	5
y-Sweden	3	1	1	1	7	7	4
Tunisia	3	0	0	3	2	10	0

GROUP F
Sunday, June 14
Netherlands 2, Japan 2
Sweden 5, Tunisia 1
Saturday, June 20
Netherlands 5, Sweden 1
Sunday, June 21
Japan 4, Tunisia 0
Thursday
Netherlands 3, Tunisia 1
Japan 1, Sweden 1

GROUP G

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Egypt	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Iran	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Belgium	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
New Zealand	2	0	1	1	3	5	1

GROUP G
Monday, June 15
Belgium 1, Egypt 1
Iran 2, New Zealand 2
Sunday, June 21
Belgium 0, Iran 0
Egypt 3, New Zealand 1
Friday
New Zealand vs. Belgium, 11pm
Egypt vs. Iran, 11pm

GROUP H

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Spain	2	1	1	0	4	0	4
Uruguay	2	0	2	0	3	3	2
Cape Verde	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Saudi Arabia	2	0	1	1	1	5	1

GROUP H
Monday, June 15
Spain 0, Cape Verde 0
Saudi Arabia 1, Uruguay 1
Sunday, June 21
Spain 4, Saudi Arabia 0
Uruguay 2, Cape Verde 2
Friday
Uruguay 2, Spain 2
Cape Verde vs. Saudi Arabia, 8pm

GROUP I

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
y-France	2	2	0	0	6	1	6
y-Norway	2	2	0	0	7	3	6
Senegal	2	0	0	2	3	6	0
Iraq	2	0	0	2	1	7	0

GROUP I
Tuesday, June 16
France 3, Senegal 1
Iraq 1, Norway 4
Monday, June 22
France 3, Iraq 0
Norway 3, Senegal 2
Friday
Norway vs. France, 3pm
Senegal vs. Iraq, 3pm

GROUP J

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Argentina	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
Austria	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Algeria	2	1	0	1	2	4	3
Jordan	2	0	0	2	2	5	0

GROUP J
Tuesday, June 16
Argentina 3, Algeria 0
Wednesday, June 17
Austria 3, Jordan 1
Monday, June 22
Argentina 2, Austria 0
Algeria 2, Jordan 1
Saturday
Jordan vs. Argentina, 10pm
Algeria vs. Austria, 10pm

GROUP K

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Colombia	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Portugal	2	1	1	0	6	1	4
Congo	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Uzbekistan	2	0	0	2	1	8	0

GROUP K
Wednesday, June 17
Portugal 1, Congo 1
Colombia 3 Uzbekistan 1
Tuesday
Portugal 5, Uzbekistan 0
Colombia 1, Congo 0
Saturday
Colombia vs. Portugal, 7:30pm
Congo vs. Uzbekistan, 7:30pm

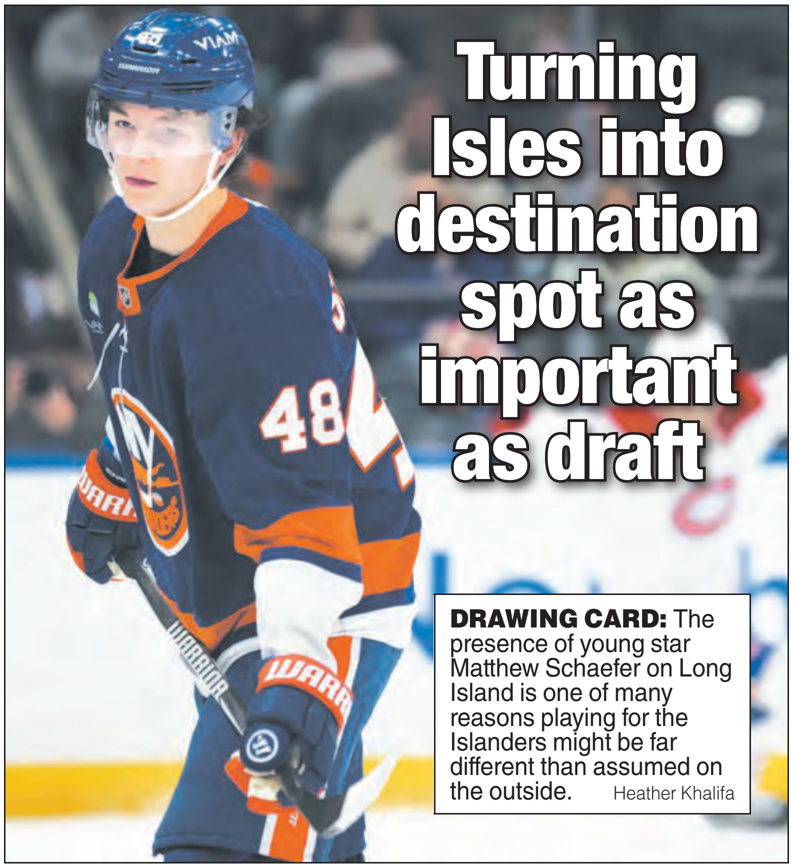
GROUP L

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
England	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Ghana	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Croatia	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Panama	2	0	0	2	0	2	0

GROUP L
Wednesday, June 17
England 4, Croatia 2
Ghana 1, Panama 0
Tuesday
England 0, Ghana 0
Croatia 1, Panama 0
Saturday
Panama vs. England, 5pm
Croatia vs. Ghana, 5pm

x-Clinched group, y-advances to the round of 32

Welcome mat



Turning Isles into destination spot as important as draft

DRAWING CARD: The presence of young star Matthew Schaefer on Long Island is one of many reasons playing for the Islanders might be far different than assumed on the outside. Heather Khalifa

By ETHAN SEARS

The player empowerment era that has arrived in the NHL represents a test of the hypothesis the Islanders have spent the last year restating in various forms.

They have Matthew Schaefer. They have UBS Arena. They have proximity to New York City without the bright lights and media scrutiny of Broadway. For much of the franchise's history, the Islanders have been treated around the league as the Rangers' ugly stepbrother, the opposite of a destination franchise. Can that change now, when the answer to that question carries serious ramifications?

The answer will dictate so much in the long term. The Islanders need to both build around Schaefer and, eventually, avoid ending up in the same situation with him as Ottawa and Detroit did with their franchise cornerstones. How much of that process is able to take place this summer, though, is less clear.

Mathieu Darche holds the 13th pick in Friday's first round of the draft, and if he keeps it, expect him to take the best player available. Predicting who that will be as late as 13th overall is a fool's errand, but players such as winger Ethan Belchetz, center Tynan Lawrence, defenseman Ryan Lin or winger Wyatt Cullen could be in range. It seems worth highlighting, though, that the pick is Darche's most easily tradeable high-end asset, should the chance arise.

In an offseason that so far has seen Brady Tkachuk and Jordan Kyrou — linked to the Islanders ahead of the last trade deadline — traded, Dylan Larkin request a trade and rumors surround fellow Team USA Olympians Connor Hellebuyck and Zach Werenski, the Islanders have mostly been on the periphery of all the noise.

Darche's two-pronged strategy of trying to make the playoffs and compete as the old guard cycles out — including captain Anders Lee, who, with whatever caveats you want to throw at it, appears likely to hit free agency July 1 — while keeping the prospects who should form the nucleus of a Cup contender a few years down the line means that he must pick his spots carefully.

The Islanders general manager, though, has said publicly he doesn't find the free agent class appealing. He has some cap space to work with — $10 million to $15 million depending on how creatively you account for it — and plenty of holes to fill on a roster crying out for help on the right side of its blue line and more scoring on its wings.

There doesn't seem to be an obvious star for the Islanders to target in a trade, especially with Kyrou now off the board, but Brayden Schenn was not an obvious target when Darche dealt for him at the trade deadline either. By the way, here was Schenn the very next day, talking about the leaguewide perception of the Islanders:

"When superstars in the league are good guys that take care of their teammates, guys are only gonna want to be around him and guys are only gonna want to come to the New York Islanders in the future just because of his talent and character."

At least for the last few years, the trend has been that, though the Islanders aren't a destination per se, once players come, they don't want to leave. Listen to how Schenn, Bo Horvat, Kyle Palmieri, JG Pageau, Tony DeAngelo and even David Rittich have talked about the place.

Schaefer's singular brilliance can be what moves the perception up a level and makes Long Island a place players ask — no, demand — to go. The Rangers have been making noise for two years about trying to attract Connor McDavid, sounding not unlike the Knicks circa 2010, deluding themselves into thinking LeBron James would ride into Madison Square Garden on a white horse. Why shouldn't the Islanders, who can offer McDavid a better hockey situation and less of a daily spotlight, quietly hope he'll hear their pitch?

Granted, that is a question for after Mike Babcock flames out in Edmonton.

As for the matter of how the Islanders will fit into the flurry of activity leading into Friday, it is a question of opportunity and salesmanship.

Islanders prediction

The Post's Ethan Sears predicts who the Islanders will select Friday in the first round of the NHL draft:

No. 13

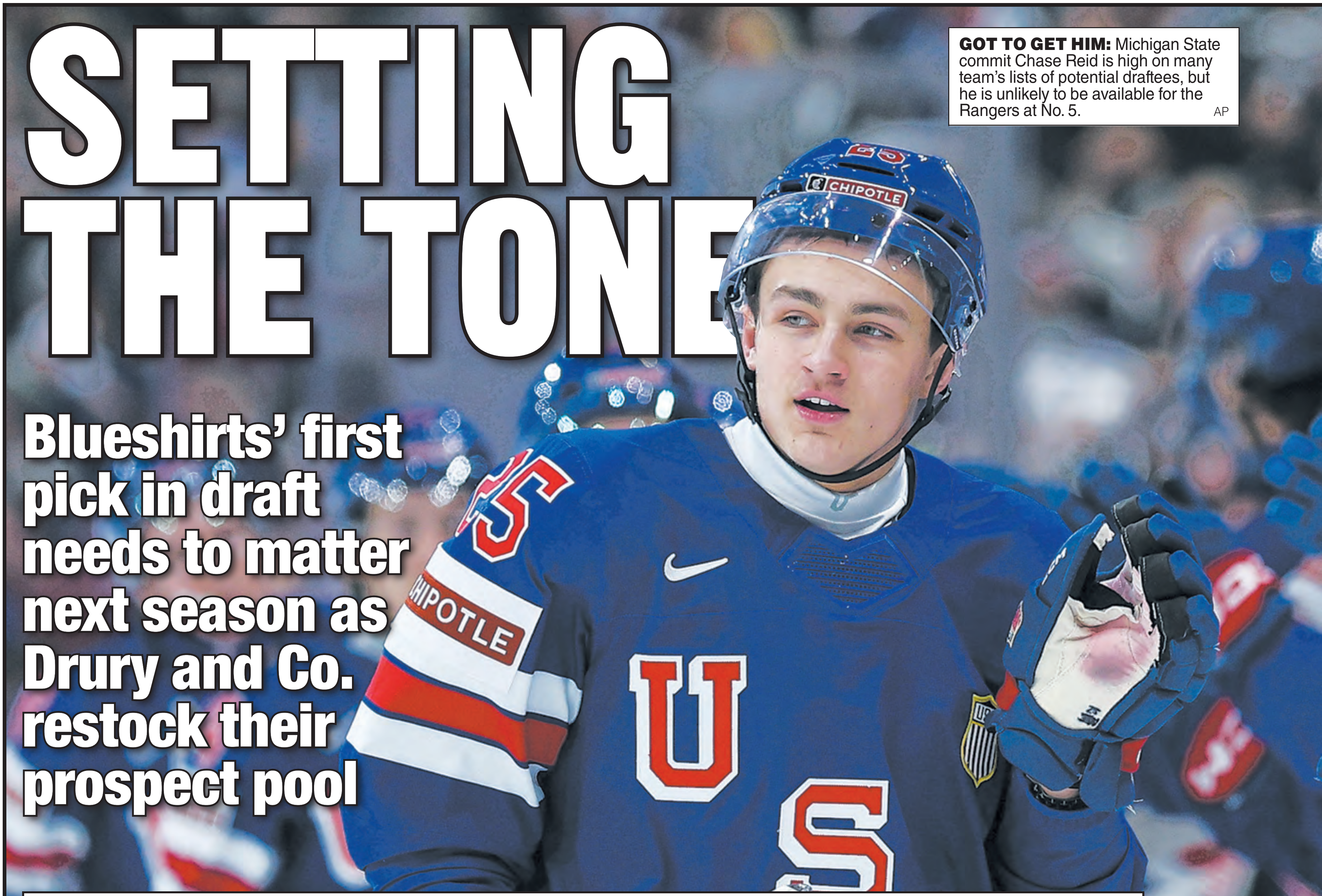
6-foot-5 winger **Ethan Belchetz** isn't the best skater in the draft, but has the shot, the hockey sense and the physicality to suggest the Islanders won't pass him up if he's still on the board. A Michigan State commit who played last year with the OHL's Windsor Spitfires, Belchetz has the sort of profile the Islanders could use in their system. That said, it wouldn't be a shock if Mathieu Darche chose to move his pick, should the chance arise.

Ethan Belchetz

Getty Images

SETTING THE TONE

Blueshirts' first pick in draft needs to matter next season as Drury and Co. restock their prospect pool



GOT TO GET HIM: Michigan State commit Chase Reid is high on many team's lists of potential draftees, but he is unlikely to be available for the Rangers at No. 5. AP

By MOLLIE WALKER

The Rangers are set to make more than one pick during Day 1 of the NHL draft Friday for the first time since they won the lottery in 2020.

With 11 total selections over the next two days, the Blueshirts interviewed upwards of 70 players at the NHL combine earlier this month for what could be the organization's largest draft class in more than two decades.

Fifth overall was the lowest the Rangers could've drawn in this year's draft lottery after finishing tied for the third-worst points percentage in the NHL. Replenishing their prospect cupboard must be a priority in this retool. The first pick they make should be of consequence next season.

Chase Reid impressed many teams in more ways than one, including the Rangers. One source compared the Michigan State commit's personality and demeanor to Matthew Schaefer, the first overall pick last year by the Islanders who captured the hearts of all hockey fans on and off the ice.

If Reid falls to No. 5, the Rangers will likely pounce, but there is no guarantee he will still be available at that point.

While some predict the Canucks will take Caleb Malhotra at No. 3, having his father, Manny, serve as head coach may be more of a deterrent than an incentive. Still, most projections have Malhotra going within the first four selections.

Even if Malhotra is available for the Rangers, word is they are higher on other players.

The more likely skaters to still be options at No. 5 are a trio of defensemen: Keaton Verhoeff, Carson Carels and Alberts Smits. Scouts say the 6-foot-3, 209-pound Smits is one of the most NHL-ready blueliners available in the draft, which should be enticing to the Rangers.

Verhoeff was the youngest defenseman in college hockey this past season and turned 18 just last week, but the righty shot is lauded for his presence and quiet confidence. In his freshman season at the University of North Dakota, Verhoeff was a top four defenseman, quarterbacked the power play and was one of the team's leaders in ice time.

"I was really impressed with his ability to compete physically," UND head coach Dane Jackson told The Post in a recent phone interview. "And then also his ability to adapt and figure out and adapt his game to probably just be a little more efficient and move pucks a little bit quicker than he had to in junior hockey."

Committed to UND for the 2026-27 season, Carels put up 20 goals and 73 points in 58 games with the Prince George Cougars of the Western Hockey League.

The left-handed defenseman grew up working on his family farm just outside of Cypress River in Manitoba, Canada. Concerns over his ability to flourish in an overwhelming city like New York are warranted and will likely be taken into consideration, but he is said to have a well-rounded two-way game already that could outweigh any apprehension.

"I think Carson's got a real edge to his game," Jackson said. "Kind of an old-school type of physicality and kind of hardness that he competes with. Those are always nice defensemen to have in front of your net when you have guys that are punishing the opposition."

mwalker1@nypost.com

Rangers prediction

The Post's Mollie Walker predicts who the Rangers will select Friday in the first round of the NHL draft:

No. 5

With Chase Reid unavailable, the Rangers will take **Keaton Verhoeff** out of the University of North Dakota.

Keaton Verhoeff

Getty Images

No. 26

If a big-bodied center like **Brooks Rogowski** is still on the board, the Rangers will pounce.

QUID PRO QUO: The Rangers aren't going to just trade Braden Schneider without getting a comparable player in return, The Post's Mollie Walker writes. Corey Sipkin

Schneider's future depends on what Rangers may get

NEW YORK
RANGERS
Mollie Walker

INQUIRIES on pending restricted free agent Braden Schneider continue to roll in as the Rangers prepare for the NHL draft and the start of free agency July 1.

The incentive to trade the young defenseman, however, lies in the potential of the return rather than looking to part ways with a player the organization traded up to select 19th overall in the 2020 NHL Draft.

If the Blueshirts are going to trade Schneider this offseason, a comparable player must be coming back to New York. A source indicated that is the prerequisite for president and general manager Chris Drury to sign off on a trade for the 24-year-old blueliner.

A comparable would be a player in the 23-27 age range who is under team control and could have untapped potential.

Drury continues to hold firm on his price point for his assets as the league landscape takes on a seller's market, no player more so than Vincent Trocheck. There is confidence in the Rangers front office that a team will pay up this summer.

One player is more likely to remain in New York than not despite his consistent inclusion on trade boards.

Alexis Lafrenière finished last season on a high note that resonated in the Rangers organization. After Artemi Panarin was traded to Los Angeles, the team was pleased with the way the Canadian wing stepped into the increased role and produced.

Despite the losing nature of the Rangers season, Lafrenière set a career high in assists (33) and tied his previous best point total of 57. He also had more power-play goals (9) and points (15) than ever before.

The improvement in his overall work ethic was not just noticed by us, but also by people inside the club who were greatly encouraged by his efforts.

It would take a major offer for the Rangers to give up on their first overall pick from 2020.

Like Schneider, a return for Lafrenière would have to include a comparable player of similar age and contract control. The 24-year-old is only one season into a seven-year, $52.15 million contract that he signed in October 2024, making him a cost-controllable option at $7.45 million per year under a rising cap.

A player like the Ducks' Mason McTavish, a 23-year-old also one season into a six-year, $42 million deal, would fit the bill.

An argument can be made that Lafrenière is the most important player in this Rangers retool.

Part of the team's trajectory depends on his full emergence as an impactful player in the NHL. The inconsistencies in his game have been cause for concern since he joined the Rangers out of that virtual draft six years ago.

There is belief that as Lafrenière matures, the likelihood of his game taking off will rise considerably. The Rangers don't appear to be in a rush to move on, but rather are taking a more patient approach.

While activity around the league has picked up in recent days, the Rangers have been evaluating their options on the board.

The draft this weekend is sure to be a springboard into what should be an eventful summer for the Rangers.

TIMBERWOLVES
5
BUZZ CITY
1

MINNY ME: The Hornets shocked the NBA on Thursday, sending LaMelo Ball (right) to Minnesota, where he will partner with All-Star Anthony Edwards, who had threatened to force a trade if the Timberwolves didn't get him more help. Getty Images

T'Wolves playing Ball in NBA trade stunner

By ERICH RICHTER

The Hornets are out of the LaMelo Ball business, trading him to the Timberwolves on Thursday, ESPN.com reported.

Ball was shipped to Minnesota in exchange for Naz Reid, a 2033 unprotected first-round pick, three first-round pick swaps (2028, 2029 and 2030) and three second-round picks.

Reserve guard Josh Green also heads to Minnesota in the trade.

The move comes after reports that Timberwolves star Anthony Edwards would force a trade from Minnesota in the near future if the team doesn't improve his supporting cast.

The pairing of Ball and Edwards should be interesting, as the now-former Hornets guard is one of the most divisive stars in the NBA.

Ball is not known as a player who takes defensive effort particularly seriously, although he did play better during the Hornets' second-half playoff push, where they went 18-9, among the best in basketball.

Shot selection is another key sticking point that has frustrated Ball fans, as he sometimes shoots off-balance jump shots from several feet beyond the arc.

It'll be up to Timberwolves coach Chris Finch to reign in Ball's questionable shot quality and inconsistent defensive prowess.

The poor defensive metrics will likely be masked somewhat by the presence of perennial Defensive Player of the Year candidate Rudy Gobert backing him up down low.

Ball has also seldom been available during his NBA career.

He played in 72 games last season, the second most of his career, but suited up for just 105 of a possible 246 games in his prior three seasons in the league.

Ball averaged his fewest points per game since his rookie year (20.1), but he still helped the Hornets qualify for the play-in tournament, and last season represented the most wins he has contributed to since he entered the NBA.

For Minnesota, the loss of Reid certainly hurts their big-man depth, as they also just traded their other forward, Julius Randle, to the Nets in a salary dump earlier this week.

The Hornets will now go forward with guards that consist of Brandon Miller and Kon Knueppel, while welcoming in Reid to their backcourt.

erichter@nypost.com

Learning curve: Domínguez adjustments prove helpful

By GREG JOYCE

BOSTON — It was only one at-bat halfway through a long season.

But it won the Yankees the game and spoke loudly about Jasson Domínguez's ability to rebound from some hiccups and impact the club the rest of the way, especially as it tries to withstand a barrage of injuries.

The 23-year-old outfielder had looked overmatched while striking out in his first two at-bats with Tigers ace Tarik Skubal on Wednesday night, and then fell behind 0-2 in the third at-bat with the game tied in the sixth inning. That is when Domínguez went to work. He fouled off three pitches while taking three balls out of the zone to work the count full, then on the ninth pitch got a change-up down the middle and crushed it into the left field seats for a two-run shot, the switch-hitter's first home run of the year from the right side.

"The first two at-bats, I couldn't figure out," Domínguez said. "[Skubal] is one of the best. His changeup, his fastball, they're great. By the third at-bat, I had a better clue about it.

"I think it's just mental and trying to stay in the game. He got me the first two, but there's still more game to play, there's still more at-bats coming. Just keep my mind right and try to help the team, trying to battle."

CATCHING ON: Jasson Domínguez's ability to adjust to pitchers during an at-bat bodes well for the Yankees. AP

Domínguez, who went 1-for-4 with an RBI in Thursday's 6-3 loss to the Red Sox, has already impressed the Yankees with how he handled his demotion to Triple-A to begin the year, with no spot for him on the roster until injuries opened the door for him to come back up.

But the battle with Skubal was another example of why they continue to believe there is more in there than he has shown to date as a big leaguer.

"He's a talented hitter," manager Aaron Boone said. "It's good to see a young player like that going up against a really tough matchup and it's just why you got to keep at it. You're going to get had sometimes by a good pitcher in certain at-bats. It didn't hold him down and obviously that swing was the difference."

The fact that it came from the right side made it even more notable.

Hitting righty was one of Domínguez's biggest weaknesses last year, as he hit just .204 with a .569 OPS and one home run in 104 plate appearances, compared to .274 with a .768 OPS and nine home runs in 325 plate appearances as a left-handed hitter.

But he has simplified his approach from the right side this year and it has made a difference so far, entering Thursday batting .321 with a .893 OPS and one home run in 29 plate appearances from that side, compared to .167 with a .579 OPS and two home runs in 45 plate appearances from the left side.

"In the past, I used to have a big leg kick and all that," Domínguez said. "Right now I'm just trying to be more simple and take good at-bats."

Boone has maintained that Dominguez hitting better right-handed came down to experience, after he has missed large chunks of time to injury in his career. But he is getting a steady dose of it now, especially at a time when Aaron Judge, Giancarlo Stanton and Trent Grisham are all on the injured list and playing time is up for grabs.

That said, there is clearly still room for improvement from Domínguez, particularly on defense. He started a ninth straight game in right field Thursday night, and the new position remains a work in progress, as evidenced by a fielding error there Wednesday. But the Yankees continue to believe he has the mental and physical skills to make it work.

"Hopefully with more and more experience," Boone said, "he continues to get better and better and becomes the player out there we think he can be."

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Peterson first casualty of '26

By ANDREW CRANE

When Craig Counsell spoke to David Peterson over the phone Thursday morning, the Cubs manager could sense it in his newest pitcher's voice. This was a lot to take in. Peterson had only known one team throughout his MLB career — and he was the longest-tenured Met. Just Wednesday night, during the second game of a doubleheader between the teams, Peterson was in the home dugout.

But that changed shortly before midnight, after the Mets sent the struggling lefty to Chicago in exchange for infield prospect Cole Mathis. Instead of spending the rest of his final season before free agency trying to fix what has gone wrong in Queens, Peterson was expected to start this weekend in Milwaukee for another team, potentially even flying with it after the series concluded at Citi Field and Peterson got everything in his personal life situated.

"Nobody tells you when you're gonna be traded," Counsell said. "They call you into the office or they call you on the phone and say, 'You've been traded.' That's the warning you get. That's shocking news for anybody. So I think he's feeling the effects of that, and that takes a little while."

And for the Mets, who entered play with a five-game losing streak and in the basement of the National League East, it marked the first move in what could be a summer filled with change to the current roster. Peterson's deal could be just the initial trade. This is the reality for a spiraling team. After being an integral piece of the Mets' improbable run to the NLCS in 2024 and after making the All-Star Game in 2025, Peterson's trajectory stalled, with struggles forcing him to become a bullpen piece and bulk-inning reliever this season as a result.

"It's sad to see him go," Bo Bichette told The Post. "He's been a great teammate so far in my time here and obviously spent a lot of time here, so yeah, I think it definitely sends some shock waves through the clubhouse."

Mendoza said Peterson's reaction to his role didn't play a factor in the deal. He praised the 30-year-old's ability to adapt to whatever the Mets needed. Peterson, a first-round pick in 2017 who debuted three years later, had collected a 6.08 ERA through 16 appearances — and eight starts — this season, with the latest clunker unfolding Sunday against the Phillies.

On a Mets team with so many rotation questions, Peterson was among the most puzzling. He pitched to a 2.41 ERA across the final two months of the 2024 regular season. He collected a 2.83 ERA across his first 20 starts the next campaign, too, and cracked the first All-Star roster of his career. He was supposed to be the constant. A source of stability in a 2026 rotation filled with inconsistencies (such as Kodai Senga) and unproven young pitchers (such as Nolan McLean).

"And then kinda everything went the other way," Mendoza said.

After a three-start stretch where he allowed 14 earned runs in $14\frac{1}{3}$ innings, Peterson was demoted to the bullpen. He made four starts after the demotion while also logging bulk innings in other outings.

Sally Brompton Daily Horoscope

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT YOURSELF AND WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS AT SALLYBROMPTON.COM

♋ CANCER (June 22-July 23)

With the Sun in your sign at odds with Pluto today you could find that people above you in the hierarchy get a bit too demanding for your liking. But they have the power and you do not, so you may have no choice but to follow orders.

♌ LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)

There will come a time today when you will be tempted to quit and say goodbye to people who are giving you a hard time, but if you are smart you will stick it out and show them you won't be beaten. That's the quality they are looking for.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

It is inevitable that you will say or do something that offends the powers that be today, but that's actually a good thing. It will demonstrate that you are not the sort to let others push you around. Once they know that they will leave you alone.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)

You have so much energy at your disposal at the moment but you need to make sure that you use it in the right way. Focus on a goal that not only benefits you personally but also helps the people around you in your community.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

You have unfinished business with someone you feel has been taking liberties and today's link between the Sun and your ruling planet Pluto means you intend to go for the jugular. Let them know you are a force to be reckoned with.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

You enjoy taking risks but the planets warn this is not the right time to push too hard or go too far. Aim high, by all means, but make sure your goals are within what you know you are capable of. Don't set yourself up for failure.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

If a rival on the work front tries deliberately to annoy you, you must give back as good as you get. This is one of those occasions when if you neglect to stand up for yourself they will be on your case every moment of every day.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

You may think you don't need to listen to advice but you are wrong. The planets indicate most strongly that if you don't get some serious input from a genuine expert you will almost certainly make a silly, and costly, mistake.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

The best way to increase your chances of success is to let your boss know that you are ready to take on more responsibility. You will, however, need to make sure they don't take the opportunity to burden you with their workload as well.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 20)

If you get the urge to travel today and over the weekend then go for it. Friends and family members may suggest there are other priorities you should be focusing on but if you don't follow your dream you are unlikely to be happy.

♉ TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

You may be suspicious of someone's motives but unless you have actual evidence that they are planning something bad you would be wise to keep those suspicions to yourself. The planets warn it could be your own judgment that is flawed.

♊ GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Would you rather be someplace else, doing something else? Well that's too bad because fate has placed you exactly where you need to be at this moment in time and your one and only aim must be to make the most of it.

BIRTHDAY FRIDAY

You will get the chance to make some serious money this year, but only if you are ready to drop outmoded ideas and bring your methods and routines up to date. The working world is changing fast and the old ways are no longer the best.

Post Weather Report

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Friday

Today: A couple of showers this morning. High 79 to 85.

Tonight: Some clouds, late rain. Low 65 to 71.

Saturday

Tomorrow: Rain tapering to a couple of showers. High 72 to 78.

Tomorrow night: Partly cloudy and humid. Low 64 to 70.

Sunday

Warmer. High 80 to 86.

Evening
Mainly clear. Low 65 to 71.

Monday

Mostly sunny. High 84 to 90.

Evening
Partly cloudy. Low 65 to 71.

Almanac

YESTERDAY'S CONDITIONS AT CENTRAL PARK THROUGH 6PM

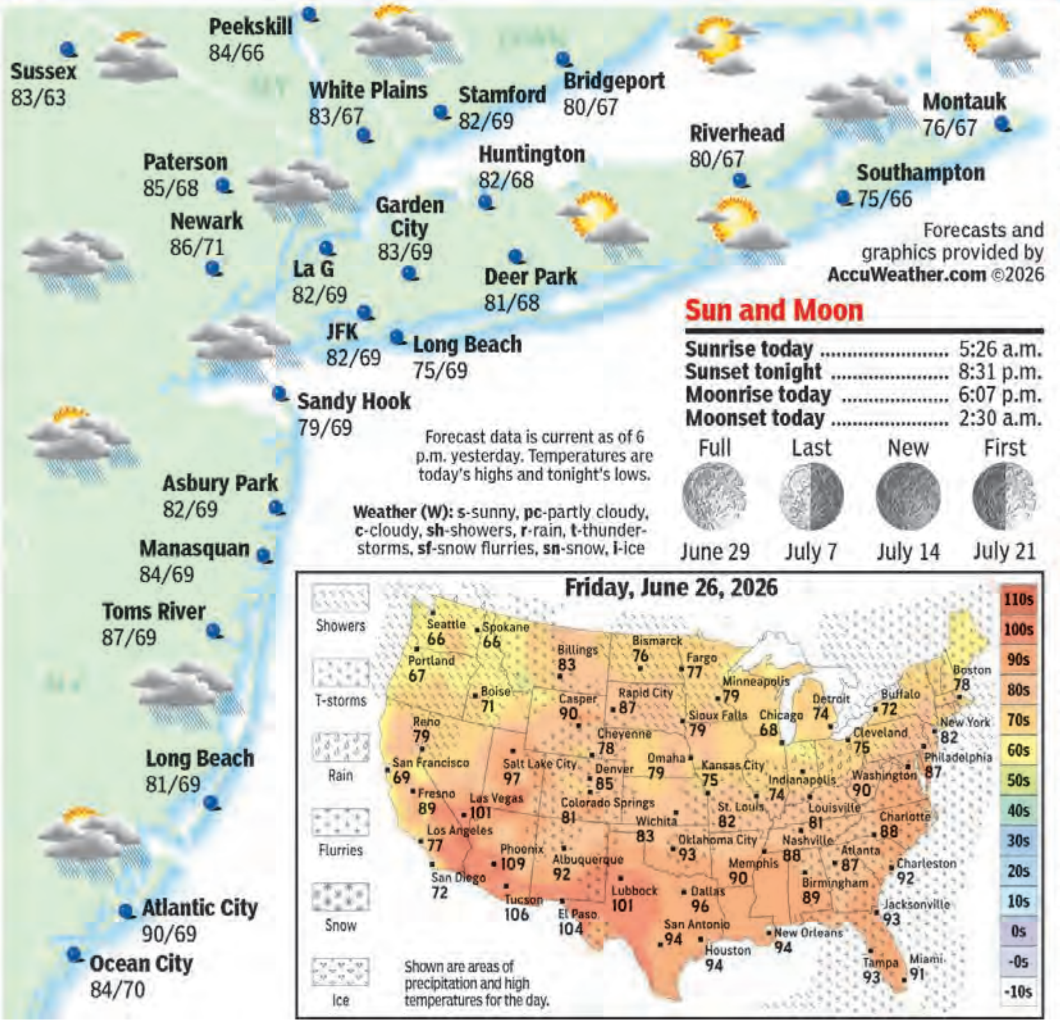
Temperature
High: 83, Low: 66, Mean: 75

Departure from Normal
Yesterday: 0 degrees

Precipitation
Yesterday: 0.00", Month: 2.98",
Year: 17.41", Normal year to date: 23.06"

Cooling Degree days yesterday..............10
Total for the month (normal).......208 (174)
Total since Jan. 1 (normal)...........346 (255)
Last year to date....................................274
Heat Index (at noon yest.) 79
UV index (for Fri.) .... 4 (Moderate)
Humidity (at noon) 45%

AIR QUALITY
Pollen: Moderate Predominant pollen: Trees, Grasses, Weeds
AQI rating: (for Fri.)......................Moderate



Sussex
83/63
Peekskill
84/66
White Plains
83/67
Stamford
82/69
Bridgeport
80/67
Riverhead
80/67
Montauk
76/67
Southampton
75/66
Paterson
85/68
Newark
86/71
Huntington
82/68
Garden City
83/69
La G
82/69
Deer Park
81/68
JFK
82/69
Long Beach
75/69
Sandy Hook
79/69
Asbury Park
82/69
Manasquan
84/69
Toms River
87/69
Long Beach
81/69
Atlantic City
90/69
Ocean City
84/70
Friday, June 26, 2026
Showers
T-storms
Rain
Flurries
Snow
Ice
Seattle 66
Spokane 66
Portland 67
Billings 83
Bismarck 76
Fargo 77
Boise 71
Casper 90
Rapid City 87
Minneapolis 79
Reno 79
Cheyenne 78
Sioux Falls 79
Chicago 68
Detroit 74
Buffalo 72
Boston 78
New York 82
San Francisco 69
Salt Lake City 97
Denver 85
Omaha 79
Kansas City 75
Cleveland 75
Philadelphia 87
Indianapolis 74
Washington 90
Fresno 89
Las Vegas 101
Colorado Springs 81
Wichita 83
St. Louis 82
Louisville 81
Charlotte 88
Los Angeles 77
Phoenix 109
Albuquerque 92
Oklahoma City 93
Nashville 88
Atlanta 87
Memphis 90
Charleston 92
San Diego 72
Lubbock 101
Dallas 96
Birmingham 89
Tucson 106
El Paso 104
San Antonio 94
Houston 94
New Orleans 94
Jacksonville 93
Tampa 93
Miami 91
110s
100s
90s
80s
70s
60s
50s
40s
30s
20s
10s
0s
-0s
-10s

Shown are areas of precipitation and high temperatures for the day.

Forecast data is current as of 6 p.m. yesterday. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Weather (W): **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **r**-rain, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather.com** ©2026

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today .... 5:26 a.m.
Sunset tonight .... 8:31 p.m.
Moonrise today .... 6:07 p.m.
Moonset today .... 2:30 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
June 29	July 7	July 14	July 21

New York Tides	TODAY		TOMORROW	
High Tide for	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
Coney Island	5:50a	6:15p	6:40a	6:59p
Fire Island	5:55a	6:30p	6:37a	7:12p
Hempstead	10:18a	10:25p	11:03a	11:06p
Huntington	9:59a	10:07p	10:45a	10:49p
Jones Inlet	5:34a	5:59p	6:24a	6:43p
Montauk Point	7:12a	7:34p	7:57a	8:18p
Port Washington	10:26a	10:34p	11:11a	11:15p
Sandy Hook	5:54a	6:19p	6:44a	7:03p

Regional cities	TODAY	TOMORROW
Albany	81/60/t	78/60/pc
Danbury	83/66/pc	74/61/sh
Glens Falls	79/57/t	80/57/pc
Gr Barrington	81/59/sh	77/58/s
Kingston	86/63/sh	79/60/pc
Liberty	80/60/sh	76/58/pc
Monticello	80/61/c	74/58/pc
Newburgh	85/65/pc	76/62/pc
Poughkeepsie	84/64/c	75/59/pc
Saratoga Springs	81/57/t	82/59/sh
Stroudsburg	83/62/pc	74/58/r
Torrington	82/62/c	76/60/pc
Syracuse	76/59/sh	78/59/pc

World cities	TODAY	TOMORROW
Athens	93/80/s	92/76/s
Baghdad	110/82/pc	109/82/s
Beijing	91/64/pc	94/68/pc
Berlin	95/66/s	105/75/pc
Cairo	96/74/pc	96/75/pc
Dublin	78/63/pc	73/55/sh
Geneva	95/66/c	99/69/s
Hong Kong	90/81/sh	88/83/t
Jerusalem	82/65/s	83/66/s
Kabul	86/69/sh	95/71/pc
London	95/69/s	90/66/t
Madrid	92/71/s	95/70/s
Mexico City	75/55/pc	74/54/sh
Montreal	72/61/t	79/62/t
Moscow	67/52/sh	66/55/sh
Paris	100/70/c	98/70/t
Rio de Janeiro	73/68/sh	76/68/pc
Rome	89/72/s	91/69/s
Sydney	62/54/sh	60/55/sh
Tokyo	82/72/r	78/70/sh

POPULAR BELIEF

In afterglow of title, analysts ready to give Knicks benefit of the doubt

By JARED SCHWARTZ

Trust in Knicks decision-making is at an all-time high.

President Leon Rose, his front office and the scouting department around him have brought a team out of purgatory and turned it into a champion. Their next challenge is to repeat as champions.

And their latest moves were to trade the No. 24 pick in the draft and out of the first round completely, make two second-round picks and trade two other second-rounders. Usually, much shouldn't be expected from players drafted in the middle of the second round — where the Knicks selected Jack Kayil (No. 39) and Tyler Nickel (No. 47). But this front office has delivered contributors from similar draft positions recently.

Can they do it again?

"I trust the Knicks — they have a great scouting department," Fran Fraschilla, the former head coach at Manhattan, St. John's and New Mexico and now ESPN's college basketball analyst, who also is part of the network's NBA draft coverage, told The Post. "They hit on guys like this. ... Let's put it this way, I'll say this — Walt Perrin and Brock Aller, they know what they're doing. It's not a given that either of these guys is gonna be a home run, but I would trust their judgment given their recent track record."

The 20-year-old Kayil was the higher pick of the two, but most know less about him, given that he has played overseas in Germany for Alba Berlin. He just recently won the Bundesliga championship with Alba Berlin, recording 10 points, three rebounds and a steal — though on 2-for-11 shooting from the field and 1-for-9 shooting from 3-point range — in the title game against Bayern Munich.

"He's a big, strong but young point guard who gained a lot of experience in a relatively high-level European league," Fraschilla, who is also respected as one of the most knowledgeable about overseas basketball, said. "It's to his credit that he just led his Alba Berlin to an unexpected championship. That's in his favor. Skillwise, he's still a work in progress, but his athleticism and toughness give him a chance someday soon to be an NBA player. I'm guessing that the Knicks think he needs a little bit more seasoning. I would be surprised if he was on the roster, but he wouldn't embarrass himself. But he's not ready to be a contributor on an NBA championship team.

"He's improving. He's headed toward being an NBA player. I don't know that he's there yet, but he certainly made a big step this year, winning a championship. He was a focal point as a 20-year-old on a team with men, grown-ups."

What's his calling card right now, and where does he most need to grow?

"He's a point guard. He's a creative playmaker who has the ability to create his own shot, but his shooting needs to improve," Fraschilla said. "Having said that, he takes a lot of tough shots, because his team gets low in the shot clock. His shooting definitely needs to improve for him to be viable at some point in the future. I'm sure he'll work on it."

Nickel, a 22-year-old forward out of Vanderbilt, perhaps has a lower ceiling but is more ready to potentially contribute right away as a sharpshooter.

"I like his size, his toughness and his shooting," Fraschilla said. "He's got the toughness to be an NBA player, and he certainly shoots it well. And I think that's why they drafted him. He's not a skinny, 170-pound kid. He's well put together, very experienced, been to three schools, and was really a good player this year in the SEC. He's got a quick release, deep range, and he's fearless. The toughness and the fearlessness, off the bat, give him a chance to make an NBA roster."

Nickel shot over 40 percent from deep the past two seasons in college. And his mechanics, along with his 6-foot-7 frame, make his shooting something that should be transferable to the NBA.

"He's got a quick release and he is fearless," Fraschilla said. "Fearlessly tough with it. He has amnesia after every shot — make or miss. .... Right off the bat, his outside shooting is very translatable.

"I would say lateral quickness, defensively, in the best league in the world will be his primary adjustment. But if you watch YouTube, you'll see some sneaky athletic dunks."

There are usually reasons players fall to the second round. But the Knicks have found pieces — like Miles McBride, Mohamed Diawara, Tyler Kolek and Ariel Hukporti — there recently.

Perhaps Kayil or Nickel can be the next examples.

jschwartz@nypost.com

VANDERBILT
SEC
V

TRUST US: The Knicks took Vanderbilt's Tyler Nickel with the 47th selection in the NBA draft, a choice that could appear curious to outsiders. Nevertheless, in the aftermath of a championship, the team's brain trust has earned a little faith in its decision-making. Getty Images

No. 28 pick: Brooklyn 'where I need to be'

By BRIAN LEWIS

Julius Randle and Mikel Brown Jr. have gotten all the Nets attention this week. But they traded for a first-round pick with an eye on Joshua Jefferson and landed the skilled forward who says Brooklyn is exactly where he's supposed to be.

"It was really good feedback, from the late first round, from all the front office, just seeing what they need for their team," Jefferson said. "They felt that I fit in a lot of spots because of my versatility. I'm where I need to be. The Nets took a great chance on me, and I'm very thankful for that."

To some, the Nets took a gamble on Jefferson, an older prospect with presumably limited upside, coming off a left ankle sprain that cut short his NCAA Tournament and Iowa State's title hopes.

"When that injury happened, I feel like a lot of things [were] jeopardized from that. Going into pre-draft, I was like, make the most out of your workouts and attack your rehab hard and everything will go how it needs to go," Jefferson said. "Very blessed for this position that I'm in and just very thankful."

Jefferson is a 22-year-old rookie with a chance to garner real frontcourt minutes behind Randle and Michael Porter Jr. Despite holdovers Noah Clowney and Danny Wolf, Jefferson could boost Brooklyn's bench.

After averaging 16.4 points, 7.4 rebounds and an impressive 4.8 assists — albeit just 34.5 percent from 3-point range — Jefferson will bring passing and physicality that could earn him early playing time.

When Nets GM Sean Marks traded for Randle on Monday and brought in the 28th pick along with him, it was with an eye toward targeting Jefferson.

"It absolutely was," Marks said. "Josh was a guy that we have absolutely been all over all year long and watched how he played the game, his skill set. That definitely translates.

"High IQ, and when you watch him play — when Iowa State plays through him, his teammates feed off of him — he's definitely a facilitator out there. The toughness that he has. So there were a lot of intangibles. And then he's a winner, an absolute flat-out winner. There's an edge to how he plays and a toughness, which we loved."

Bulk, force and toughness have been in increasing demand in the NBA playoffs lately and visibly and vexingly lacking in Brooklyn. But measuring 6-foot-7 ¾ and a solid 246 pounds at last month's draft combine, Jefferson says his physicality will translate quickly while he waits for his shooting to catch up.

"The thing about my game that's going to translate pretty quickly is my physicality. The NBA is a physical game right now. You have to be physical in the playoffs to win, and that's what I'm going to bring," Jefferson said. "Then just continue to work on my shot. Shooting it really well throughout this pre-draft process, a lot of reps. So if I continue to do that, it's going to keep me on the floor. And defending."

Jefferson is a ground-bound big and not a rim protector. But he's a stout defender and excellent playmaker. Jordi Fernández will be able to replace the departed Nic Claxton's playmaking from the center spot with Randle's at power forward — and perhaps Jefferson's as well.

"The way Josh plays with the ball, the DHOs, the reads, the passing ability," Marks said. "That's absolutely going to fit within Jordi's system and Jordi's style and how he wants to play."

Jefferson says he's studied skilled forwards like Paolo Banchero, Draymond Green, Naz Reid and Jaylin Williams, and specifically cited Randle. Now he'll get to back up and learn from the latter.

"It's going to be huge for me. I watched a lot of Julius Randle film throughout my senior season. It helped me a lot seeing his mid-post, post-up work is a work of art," Jefferson said. "I'm going to use him as a resource to improve my game and then just get a lot of assists off of him."

➤ The Nets agreed to an Exhibit 10 deal with Illinois forward Ben Humrichous, per DraftExpress.

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CYCLONES
XII
5

Joshua Jefferson

Getty Images

NEW YORK
NEW YORK
3

TOO MUCH: Knicks owner James Dolan's reluctance to go into the second apron means Mitchell Robinson, celebrating the NBA title with Karl-Anthony Towns, likely won't get a chance at a repeat.
Getty Images

Knicks likely to part ways with Robinson

By ANDREW BATTIFARANO

The longest-tenured Knick probably won't get a chance at an NBA title repeat.

Mitchell Robinson is unlikely to return to the Knicks next season, a source told The Post's Stefan Bondy on Thursday night.

Robinson is an unrestricted free agent, and with Knicks owner James Dolan making clear he is not willing to go into the second apron, it was always going to be questionable whether the big man would be back in New York.

Dolan said last week during an appearance on "The Carton Show" on WFAN that going into the second apron — due to its restrictive nature in free agency — would not be an option for the newest NBA champs.

"There's certain things in the NBA that you'd have to be suicidal to do. One of them is the second apron. Cannot go into the second apron," Dolan said. "I'll write as big of a check as possible, but I can't write a check that goes into the second apron."

The second-apron strategy was apparent in the NBA draft this week when the Knicks traded out of the first round and thus did not have to pay a guaranteed contract.

The Knicks will still have other free agent questions to face, including from Landry Shamet, who is also an unrestricted free agent. Earlier this week, The Post reported the Knicks are nearing a multiyear deal worth more than $10 million for Mohamed Diawara to return.

If this is indeed the end for Robinson in the Big Apple, it ends a run that started in 2018 when he was taken as a second-round pick out of Western Kentucky.

He was a valuable rotation player in the regular season this year by averaging 8.8 rebounds in 19.6 minutes across 60 games.

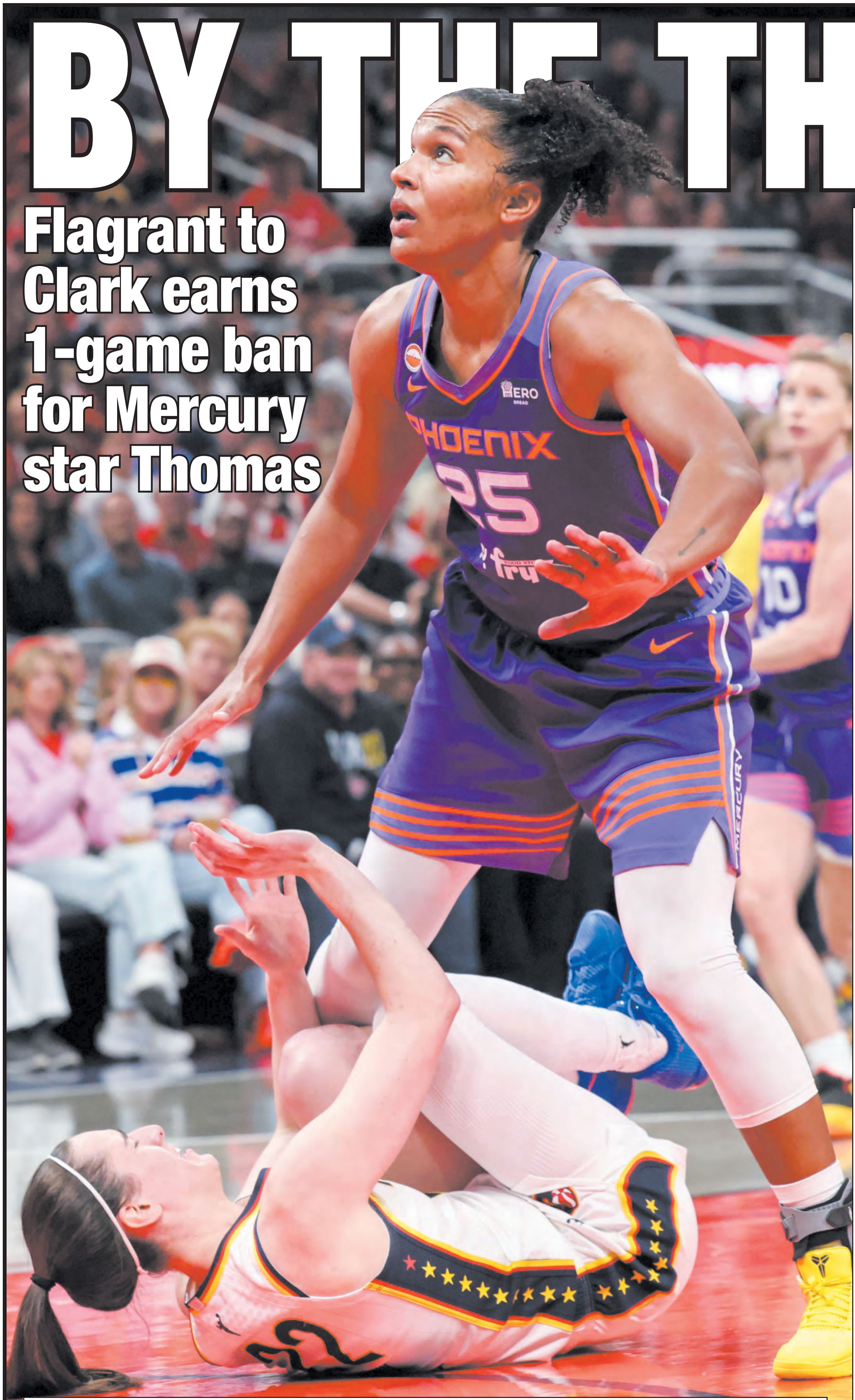
Robinson, though, averaged about six fewer minutes during the playoffs and continued to struggle from the free-throw line (29.3 percent) as teams tried to employ the Hack-a-Mitch strategy.

And while he mysteriously broke a bone in his hand on the eve of the NBA Finals, he played a pivotal role in the clincher with 10 rebounds, including an offensive board with 22 seconds remaining that helped the Knicks retain control of the ball before OG Anunoby hit one of two free throws to ice the game.

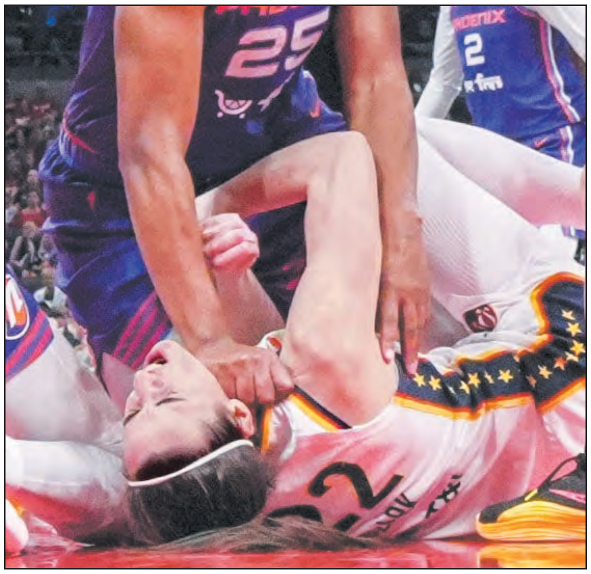
abattifarano@nypost.com

BY THE THROAT

Flagrant to Clark earns 1-game ban for Mercury star Thomas



CAUGHT RED-HANDED: Fever star Caitlin Clark absorbed a fist to the throat from Phoenix's Alyssa Thomas during Wednesday night's game, with the WNBA later slapping her with a flagrant-2 foul. Reuters (2)



By DOUG FEINBERG

The WNBA has suspended Phoenix's Alyssa Thomas for one game after she made contact with her fist to Caitlin Clark's throat in Wednesday night's matchup against Indiana.

It happened with 6:52 left in the second quarter and was deemed to be a non-basketball act. The league gave Thomas a Flagrant Foul 2 penalty for it. No foul was called on the play by officials.

The WNBA is allowed to review a game to reclassify a Flagrant foul or to classify as Flagrant any foul not called as such during a game.

Thomas will serve her suspension on Saturday when the Mercury visit the Toronto Tempo.

"It was egregious. The fact that it was a no-call ... You got to call it," said Fever coach Stephanie White after the game. "You're coming in here aware of what happened two nights ago and that [expletive] still happens? Absolutely unacceptable."

The Fever renewed their call for player safety in a statement Thursday.

"Player safety should be paramount in our league," Fever team president Kelly Krauskopf said in a statement. "We appreciate the WNBA's review of last night's incident and the action taken. Right now our focus is on Caitlin and our entire team as we prepare for Saturday."

The Fever host Los Angeles on Saturday night.

This isn't the first time the league has upgraded a foul against Clark. Last season Marina Mabrey, when she was with Connecticut, received a technical foul in a game against Indiana. The league later upgraded it to a Flagrant 2. Over the years the NBA has had a few instances where the league upgraded a play that resulted in a suspension.

The two teams also played on Monday night and there were six technical fouls called and one ejection. Clark picked up her fifth technical of the season in that game. The team petitioned the league to have it rescinded, but the WNBA confirmed that the technical will stand.

The physical play carried over to Wednesday's game, a 111-109 Mercury win.

Clark left the game in the third quarter as she was dealing with a back issue. She appeared to tweak her back in the second quarter when she was fouled shooting a 3-pointer in the second quarter. She fell to the ground and was rubbing her back as she stood up. In the first quarter she went back to the tunnel and returned to the bench wearing a wrap around her back. *— AP*

Concussion protocol sidelines Sabally for indefinite absence

By MADELINE KENNEY

SEATTLE — Liberty forward Satou Sabally is sidelined indefinitely after entering concussion protocol.

Sabally was initially listed as questionable with a head injury ahead of Thursday night's game against the Storm. The team updated the injury report the day of the game, ruling her out as part of concussion protocol.

Sabally departed with 6:17 left in the second quarter of Tuesday's win in Las Vegas. She didn't rejoin the team on the floor after halftime and was ruled out by the end of the third quarter with a facial injury.

Sabally was hit in the head by NaLyssa Smith's arm while both players attempted to rebound the ball near the 5:31 mark of the first quarter. Sabally was called for the foul, and checked out of the game shortly thereafter.

The Liberty submitted the play to the league for review.

Coach Chris DeMarco told The Post that he was "of course" surprised the foul went against Sabally.

"She got hit in the head," DeMarco said. "I mean, [the officials] didn't even look at it. But is what it is. [It's] one of those things ... if you're gonna look at others, to look at that one. But more than anything, I just feel bad for Satou and her having to go through this again."

After the game, DeMarco said Sabally wasn't being evaluated for a concussion. He doubled down Thursday, saying the team "didn't know right away" and that Sabally had "delayed onset symptoms."

Sabally will stay with the team for the remainder of the trip, with New York heading to San Francisco to play the Golden State Valkyries on Sunday.

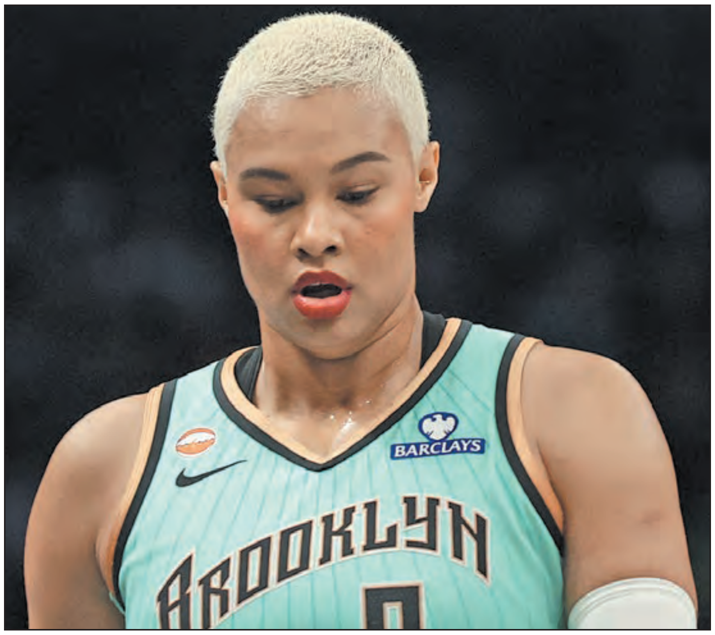
DeMarco said Sabally is in "good spirits."

"It's not easy for anybody and then, you know, adding in a Commissioner's Cup game makes it even more tricky going forward with," DeMarco said. "She will be day to day, but just figuring out when we'll have her back. But more than anything, we're concerned obviously for her health and well-being. We want her to feel good and it's just disappointing because she's playing so well. She's done such a great job getting herself back to the point where she was competing in high minutes and hopefully just a little bit of a setback and we can keep it moving. But yeah, she's out there playing so hard so you feel bad for her."

This is Sabally's second reported concussion in eight months.

Sabally was helped off the floor in Game 3 of the 2025 WNBA Finals and missed the last game of the series with a concussion.

Lingering concussion symptoms kept Sabally sidelined through the Unrivaled season. She didn't return to basketball activities until March.



AFTER REVIEW ... Satou Sabally, who coach Chris DeMarco said Thursday had "delayed onset symptoms," will stay with the team for the remainder of the Liberty road trip while she recovers. Heather Khalifa

'I' IN THE STORM: Liberty guard Sabrina Ionescu looks to make a pass amid pressure from a pair of Storm defenders during Thursday night's game in Seattle. Getty Images

Down & out

Short-handed Liberty fall to cellar-dweller Storm

By MADELINE KENNEY

STORM	**99**
LIBERTY	**88**

Boxscore Page 45

SEATTLE — Two days after taking down the defending champion Aces in Las Vegas, the Liberty laid an egg in Seattle.

They were down two starters, with Satou Sabally in concussion protocol and Breanna Stewart out for rest. But there was hardly any reason that the Liberty couldn't handle the rebuilding Storm.

Instead, Seattle took control early and never allowed the Liberty back in en route to winning 99-88.

The Liberty got within four points of the Storm in the second half, but that was it.

The loss — the Liberty's third in four games — should serve as a wake-up call. How can a team as stacked as the Liberty beat a team like the Aces so mightily yet lose to bottom-tier teams like the Fire, Mystics, Sparks and now the Storm?

To put it simply, the Liberty appear to have a problem with playing down to their opponents.

"We have to come out with a certain level of intensity, no matter who we're playing," said Jonquel Jones, who led the Liberty with 26 points and eight rebounds. "[We have to have] a certain level of attention to detail to the scouting report and the ways that the coaching staff has prepared us to be successful. I don't think we had that night. So we have to look in the mirror individually and find ways to be better defensively first and foremost."

Thursday's game was littered with mistakes on both ends of the floor. Miscommunication led to easy layups for the Storm. Turnovers or poor shot selection allowed Seattle to get out in transition. Missed box-outs led to Storm rebounds.

The Liberty were caught flat-footed to start. The Storm jumped out to a 23-15 lead in the first seven minutes.

"They came out playing better than us," Leonie Fiebich said. "They did play it harder, they played with more intensity, with more effort."

The Liberty's 16 turnovers turned into 15 points for Seattle, which scored 21 of its points on fast-break opportunities.

The Storm are one of the worst rebounding teams in the league. And yet, they outrebounded the Liberty 39-28.

"I don't know how many o-boards they had because we missed boxouts," Fiebich said. "Those are just unacceptable things that can happen, little things that affect the game in a big way."

The Storm entered Thursday averaging a league-low 78.8 points. Thursday's 99 points were the most they've scored in regulation this season.

All five of the Storm starters finished in double-digit scoring, including rookie Flau'jae Johnson, who recorded a career- and game-high 28 points. Second-year center Dominique Malonga had 20 points and 10 rebounds.

"We just wanted to win," Johnson said. "We were really tired of losing. ... And instead of putting our head down, we're like we're right there."

mkenney@nypost.com

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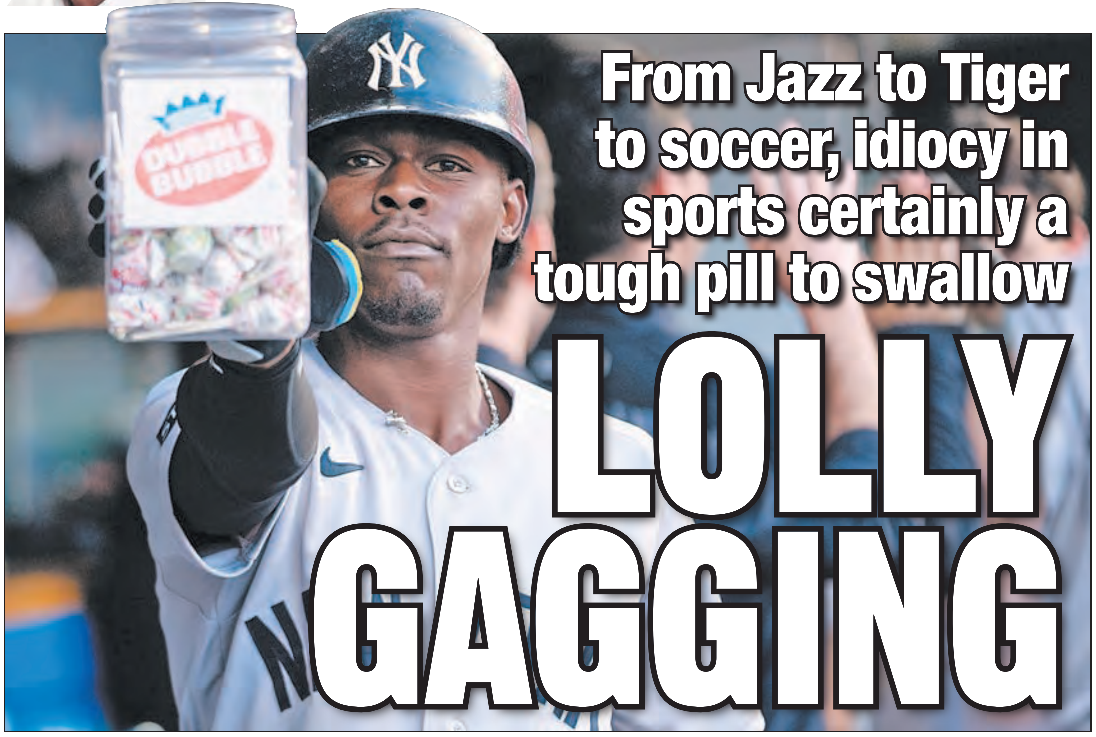

From Jazz to Tiger to soccer, idiocy in sports certainly a tough pill to swallow

LOLLY GAGGING

WHERE IS THE PRIDE OF THE YANKEES? The Post's Phil Mushnick is wondering where Joe Girardi and Michael Kay were when Jazz Chisholm Jr. was embarrassing the Yankees with his showboating — first with a lollipop in his mouth in the field Monday and then using a jar of them after homering Tuesday. AP

READER TONY Rosetty wins top billing today.

"Coming to a ballpark near you: As Jazz Chisholm Jr. steps into the batter's box, he says to the umpire, 'Here, hold my beer.' "

Why both "Typewriter" Joe Girardi and "Pinstripe Pride" Michael Kay seemed amused by Chisholm's dull-witted, indiscreet and proudly defiant unprofessionalism is sad, as wisdom-blessed viewers were shaking their heads in disgusted disbelief.

What, after all, would the Yankees team announcers' reaction have been had Chisholm been wearing the uniform of, say, the Astros or Guardians?

In that game, the Tigers wore Nike-mandated, made-in-Red China, everything-for-sale shiny black and deep blue uniforms, thus appearing as clowns or as crotch-grabbing dancers in one of Roger Goodell's X-rated Super Bowl halftime affronts to the good senses.

The names of the Tigers on the back of the jerseys were indecipherable, but you can't stand in the way of progress! And while the Tigers once always wore magnificent uniforms, these were just another insult to The Game. They suspiciously and conspicuously looked like "City Connect" gangwear, as if Detroit is short on baseball-loving Crips.

Not that I discern Rob Manfred as much of a baseball fan, but I still can't imagine him watching that game with friends and declaring, "Aren't those new Tigers uniforms great!?"

In my humble estimation, the mark of a successful newspaper columnist is found in his or her readers. I think mine are darned good, as they've been conditioned to question both the honesty and verbosity of the events owned and presented by TV.

In other words, try as the TV "experts" might, intelligent viewers know they're being taken for a ride, so why bother putting gas in that car?

Saturday on Fox, the Mets' Mark Vientos hit a home run to make it 11-1, Phils. He returned to the dugout, where his last-place teammates slapped that latest-stupid-idea Spider-Man mask on his face — more evidence of a game that defies self-inspection.

While my email box dinged with demands to know why Carlos Mendoza suffers such adolescent foolishness from his overpaid last-placers — more evidence of The Game in decay during the Bud Selig/Rob Manfred Era — Fox's easily excited Joe Davis and soporific John Smoltz ignored their opportunity to be heard as advocates of common sense.

Smoltz, in his standard monotone, droned on about something else.

Then there was NBC's presentation of the U.S. Open, coverage that included host Dan Hicks' reminders that eventual winner Wyndham Clark made an ugly scene in the locker room during last year's Open.

"Funny," wrote reader Rich Ippolitto, "given countless opportunities to speak of many of Tiger Woods' [innocent lives-threatening] criminal activities, Hicks never said a word" about Tiger's two DUI car crashes.

Then this, from reader John Witzke on NBC's and all of American TV golf's "plausibly live" (aka, intentionally dishonest) coverage:

"I have yet to miss on 'Hey, honey, betcha this putt goes in [during] live coverage.' She thinks I'm a USGA soothsayer!"

Then there was Golf Channel's Eamon Lynch, who took a shot at all Long Islanders as both advocates and participants in rowdy on-course incivilities.

While Lynch wasn't entirely wrong, he missed the big point: All of top-shelf golf is under attack from galleries of young, self-entitled "fans" encouraged by tournament authorities to drink lots of overpriced alcohol, gamble on PGA- and USGA-partnered sucker odds and make a scene fueled by booze and bets.

From the call-the-cops!, summon-the-medics! Phoenix Open to the bedlam-invited and once-gentlemanly Ryder Cup, golf has allowed bad money to be thrown in with the good and is now paying the price.

The day after Lynch fired his geocentric broadside at Long Islanders, he was seen in a chat with new PGA Tour CEO Brian Rolapp. As if the Tiger Woods Era hadn't reached and surpassed its inglorious end, Lynch asked if Woods would be consulted on coming Tour changes though, "He has been dealing with some health issues."

Yeah, "health issues." He has one of those nasty summer colds. Get it right and get it straight: He's a drug addict! Treated, released, treated, released drug addict!

Rolapp said of course, Woods would be consulted on all Tour matters. Huh? Woods can't account for himself — and never could — but his approval is essential?

But it has been that kind of week, as in just another week in which absurdities lap the field.

Fox anointed its lead MLS analyst, ex-pro Stu Holden, several of the biggest mass-appeal World Cup matches. Of course it did. Holden fits the modern TV mold as he never stops talking, even if he drowns in his own alphabet soup.

Thus we heard, at 2-1 England over Croatia still in the first half, "This game isn't over, far from it!" Thank you very little.

And Holden eschews silence to cause motion sickness: "Two swings in momentum, both ways! It has been an even game!"

During England-Ghana, Holden explained why Ghana's Thomas Partey was jeered every time he touched the ball: "I'll close that loop: He is facing a series of very serious criminal charges."

But for what? Holden didn't say!

Partey, who played in England for Arsenal, will next year stand trial as an alleged serial rapist, per the claims of four women. Partey has denied the allegations and has pleaded not guilty.

For all his yakking, how Holden never got to that part remains stunning!

Finally, reader Bill Guterding:

"I surrender! Please tell Joe Girardi to stop talking!"

MushnickPhilip@gmail.com

Less is Muir when it comes to ABC's shill for an anchor

ABC's NATIONAL news with **David Muir** continues as an invite to the Idiot's Picnic.

Tuesday, in reporting that a second note sent by the suspected kidnapper of **Savannah Guthrie**'s mother claims she is dead, Muir credited the news to "ABC sources." Must've been the same sources relied upon by a dozen other news outlets half a day earlier.

Then a report on the drug trial of U.S. Olympic skier **Bode Miller** included, "Miller redefined downhill skiing." He did? I never knew that. He appeared to ski just as the other downhill skiers did: down hill.

Finally, Muir anchored a Yahoo! report that the NBA draft will be held that night — on ABC partner ESPN!

Muir, an unabashed shill, added that the No. 1 pick will, as usual, be a guest on the next day's "Good Morning America" on ABC.

Oh, man: World Cup now woke

AS A non-gestating parent, I'd guess that it's global World Cup wokeness that has replaced "Man of the Match" with, ugh, "Superior Performer of the Match."

➤ If NBC's **Dan Hicks** believes that calling a driver "the big stick" and the putter "the flat stick" adds to his credibility, the answer is, well, "Dan, you found the bunker."

➤ In touting the Spurs over the Knicks, blowhard know-it-all, endorse-anything, it's-all-a-con **Stephen A. Smith** told ESPN viewers, "I'm not a betting man." Oh, so he just plays one in those ESPN BET commercials.

➤ Imagine baseball fans sentenced to suffer so many 12-pitcher, 25-strikeout, five-hit snoozers reject World Cup soccer as dull.

➤ Good for the Nets that they passed on drafting **Darius Acuff Jr.** with the sixth pick. The only thing clearly known about Acuff is that he's another self-smitten young braggart.

MushnickPhilip@gmail.com

ECUADOR ADORE

YOU EARNED IT: Gonzalo Plata celebrates after scoring the game-winning goal in the 77th minute of Ecuador's 2-1 victory over Germany on Thursday at MetLife, a win that sends Ecuador to the knockout stage of the World Cup. Getty Images

Nothing but love as stunning victory sends dark horse to next stage

By HOWIE KUSSOY

A World Cup sleeper awoke just in time to keep its dream alive.

Facing elimination after failing to score in its first two matches, then surrendering a goal two minutes into Thursday's match against Germany, Ecuador pulled off a stunning comeback to upset the European power and advance to the knockout stage for the first time in 20 years, following a 2-1 win at a sold-out MetLife Stadium that marked one of the most significant victories in the nation's history.

"We live it in a different way because we suffered too much in the first two matches," said Gonzalo Plata, who scored the decisive goal in the 77th minute, sending Ecuador past the group stage for the second time ever. "I think it's better this way. Now we're going to arrive with that hunger to give everything, no matter what happens at the start.

"This team believes a lot, has a lot of faith. We have 26 players who are going to give their lives for all the people who are here and made us feel at home. The dream is alive."

Ecuador (1-1-1) arrived at the World Cup as a trendy dark horse, riding a 19-game unbeaten streak that dated back to September 2024, featuring wins over Argentina and Colombia, as well as draws with Brazil, the Netherlands, the United States, Mexico and Uruguay.

ECUADOR	**2**	**Group E**
GERMANY	**1**	

But Ecuador opened the tournament with a 1-0 loss to Ivory Coast, then was stunned by a scoreless draw against Curacao, becoming the first team in World Cup history to be held without a goal despite putting 15 shots on goal.

The defensive-minded squad — which averaged less than one goal in 18 qualifying matches — appeared to be on its deathbed after allowing an early goal to Leroy Sané, falling behind the Group E winner, which entered the match leading all nations with nine goals and a plus-seven goal differential.

But in being forced out of their shell, Ecuador was able to respond quickly, making the stadium shake when Nilson Angulo delivered an equalizer from outside the box in the ninth minute past a diving Manuel Neuer, who was making his World Cup record 22nd appearance in net.

The Ecuadorians controlled much of the action afterward, but they remained on track for a tournament-ending draw until Plata became a national hero by volleying home the winner.

Despite the loss, Germany (2-1-0) will return to the knockout stage for the first time since winning the World Cup in 2014, playing Monday in Boston in the round of 32.

"They showed more intensity, more belief and took their chances when it mattered," German manager Julian Nagelsmann said. "Sometimes you have to give credit to the better team, and today, that was Ecuador. If this victory becomes a historic moment for them, then congratulations. They earned it."

When stoppage time ended, bedlam began.

Ecuador's players and staff stormed the field, hugging and dancing for more than 10 minutes. They fell to their knees in disbelief, their faces hitting the ground, having nothing left to give. Their tens of thousands of fans — countless from New York, representing Ecuador's largest population in the U.S. — put their celebratory songs and chants on repeat, stretching for more than a half-hour.

As shirts and drinks flew into the air, Ecuador manager Sebastián Beccacece ran toward the crowd and climbed into the seats, hugging his wife like he would never let go.

"The emotions took over. I didn't plan that celebration. I simply followed my heart," Beccacece said. "This victory wasn't just for the players or the coaching staff. It was for every Ecuadorian who believed in us. Beating Germany on the biggest stage in football is something our country will remember forever."

hkussoy@nypost.com

More World Cup / P. 19

Ivory Coast makes history

Associated Press

Ivory Coast rejoiced as players dropped to their knees on the pitch for a team photo — peerless in national team history — and they all pointed one finger toward the sky.

One, for the West African team's first trip to the World Cup knockout round. Why stop there?

"We aren't setting any limits for ourselves," star forward Nicolas Pépé said. "I think we have huge potential."

WORLD CUP ROUNDUP

Les Éléphants have crashed the party and made it out of their group for the first time in four World Cup appearances. Pépé scored in each half and Ivory Coast advanced with a 2-0 victory over Curaçao on Thursday in Philadelphia.

Players stripped off their jerseys and danced and partied in the locker room for the well-earned and overdue celebration.

Japan 1, Sweden 1

In Arlington, Texas, Daizen Maeda gave Japan the lead and Anthony Elanga took it away six minutes later, helping Sweden to a draw that sent both teams to the knockout round of the World Cup.

Netherlands 3, Tunisia 1

In Kansas City, Mo., Brobbey scored his third goal of the World Cup, the Netherlands got a pair of goals that deflected off Tunisia into its own net, and the Dutch rolled in the rain to a victory to advance to the knockout stage as the winners of Group F.

Australia 0, Paraguay 0

Australia and Paraguay played to a draw Thursday night in Santa Clara, Calif., in a result that clinched a spot in the knockout round for the Socceroos and will likely be enough for the Paraguayans to advance.

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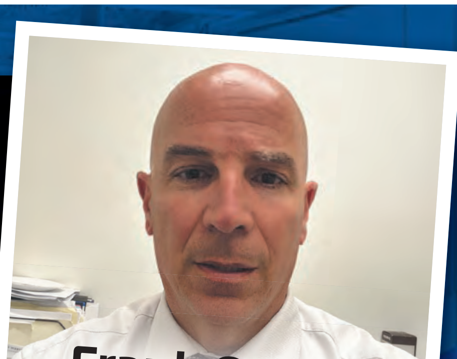

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HAPPY RETURN

Pulisic back on pitch was ultimate goal

DEEP BREATHS: The USMNT had a collective sigh of relief Thursday night when Christian Pulisic, getting off a shot against Turkey, returned to the pitch without showing any signs of the calf issue that affected him for nearly two weeks. AP

By MICHAEL DUARTE

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — Christian Pulisic is back.

The man affectionately called "Captain America" didn't start Thursday in the group-stage finale against Turkey, but his biggest contribution may have been to simply walk onto the pitch.

That alone was enough to make the sellout crowd of 70,492 fans packed into SoFi Stadium stand and applaud.

When the fourth official raised the substitution board in the 58th minute and flashed the No. 10 on the screen, the crowd erupted in a roar that shook the building. It was a collective expression of relief more than anything.

For nearly two weeks, the face of American soccer and the U.S. national team's best player had been reduced to rehab sessions and participating in individual drills on his own. Pulisic suffered a left calf injury in the opening match against Paraguay on this very field.

Every touch, every sprint, every change of direction, every shot attempt carried just as much significance as the scoreline in Team USA's 3-2 loss to Turkey.

Entering the match, the Americans had already secured first place in Group D, so the game was not about securing three more points.

It was about getting their star player back.

"You saw his quality and you saw when he came in the impact that he had. He's our guy," said Sebastian Berhalter of Pulisic's return.

The moment fit the stage for Pulisic's return. No. 10 jerseys flooded every section of the stadium. Fans arrived dressed as Founding Fathers. Others wore oversized bald eagle costumes. One supporter recreated Alexi Lalas' iconic 1994 World Cup look, complete with the unmistakable red beard and flowing hair.

Hollywood was naturally in attendance as well. Brad Pitt, Leonardo DiCaprio, Edward Norton, Ashton Kutcher, Mila Kunis, Colin Farrell, Owen Wilson, Jessica Alba, Paris Hilton, Matthew Stafford, Puka Nacua, Blake Snell, Tyler Glasnow, Mia Hamm, Julie Foudy, Clint Dempsey, Thierry Henry, Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Hugo Lloris, Scottie Pippen, Dwyane Wade, Gabrielle Union and Lalas himself were among the celebrities watching from the suites and sidelines.

They witnessed the return of Pulisic to the pitch, but more importantly, he looked dangerous again before the U.S. heads into its knockout-stage match against Bosnia-Herzegovina on Wednesday.

Five minutes after entering the match, Pulisic announced his return in trademark fashion. He got his left foot on a ball inside the penalty area that crashed off the right post. The stadium gasped before letting out a collective groan that echoed around the arena.

In the 77th minute, Pulisic created another opening just outside the 18-yard box and curled a left-footed effort toward the far corner. This one drifted inches wide, close enough to tease, close enough to remind everyone exactly what had been missing from the American attack.

The scoreboard ultimately mattered little. Pulisic's legs did.

"Whenever you have Christian coming off the bench it's a positive," said midfielder Brenden Aaronson. "He made such a difference. A lot of attention went to him so other guys had moments to have chances. He came on and was electric as always."

His rhythm returned with every run. His confidence seemed to grow with every touch. Most importantly, he walked off the field looking every bit like a player ready for the games that actually define World Cup history.

The United States now turns its attention to Wednesday's round of 32 showdown against Bosnia at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara. Win and the dream continues. Lose and the tournament ends.

mduarte@californiapost.com

Americans play favorite vs. Bosnia-Herzegovina in Round of 32

By ETHAN SEARS

USMNT NOTES

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — The U.S. national team's Round of 32 opponent had been all but official since Bosnia-Herzegovina beat Qatar on Wednesday.

But Thursday night, after a 3-2 loss to Turkey, the fait accompli became reality.

Indeed, it will be Bosnia next Wednesday in Santa Clara at 8 p.m. with a spot in the round of 16 on the line.

"They're a good team. A Round of 32, a do-or-die game," Sebastian Berhalter said. "We'll be ready. Hopefully we have all our supporters ready to go."

This will be the USMNT's best chance to win a knockout game at the World Cup since it beat Mexico to make the quarterfinals back in 2002, which still stands as its last win in the knockout stage 24 years later.

Since then, it has lost in the round of 16 to Ghana (2010), Belgium (2014) and the Netherlands (2022); this is the first World Cup to feature a round of 32.

Asked about Bosnia on Wednesday, before it became official, Mauricio Pochettino deflected the question, talking instead about the importance of winning Thursday's glorified exhibition against Turkey.

Having upset Italy to make it to the World Cup before going 1-1-1 in Group B — beating Qatar, drawing Canada, losing to Switzerland — Bosnia will be an underdog, but the U.S. would be foolish to look past it.

Led by talisman Edin Džeko and winger Kerim Alajbegovic, Bosnia has already achieved its best World Cup finish, with a group-stage exit in 2014 being its only other time qualifying since the Balkan nation achieved independence.

➤ Before facing Paraguay in the World Cup opener, the last time the U.S. men's national team had played at SoFi Stadium, it did so in front of thousands of empty seats.

The seats that were filled at that disastrous CONCACAF Nations League performance were mostly occupied by fans of Mexico, which played the other game in two doubleheaders when the USMNT lost to Panama and Canada.

"Day and night," Pochettino said Wednesday, when asked to compare the crowd back then to now.

"When you connect, you connect," Pochettino said.

➤ **Chris Richards**, one of four players with a yellow card and thus not expected to play Thursday, said he didn't expect a long rest before the round of 32 would have adverse effects.

"Fitness won't be an issue. I don't think sharpness will be either," he said. "Obviously it's good to keep into some sort of rhythm."

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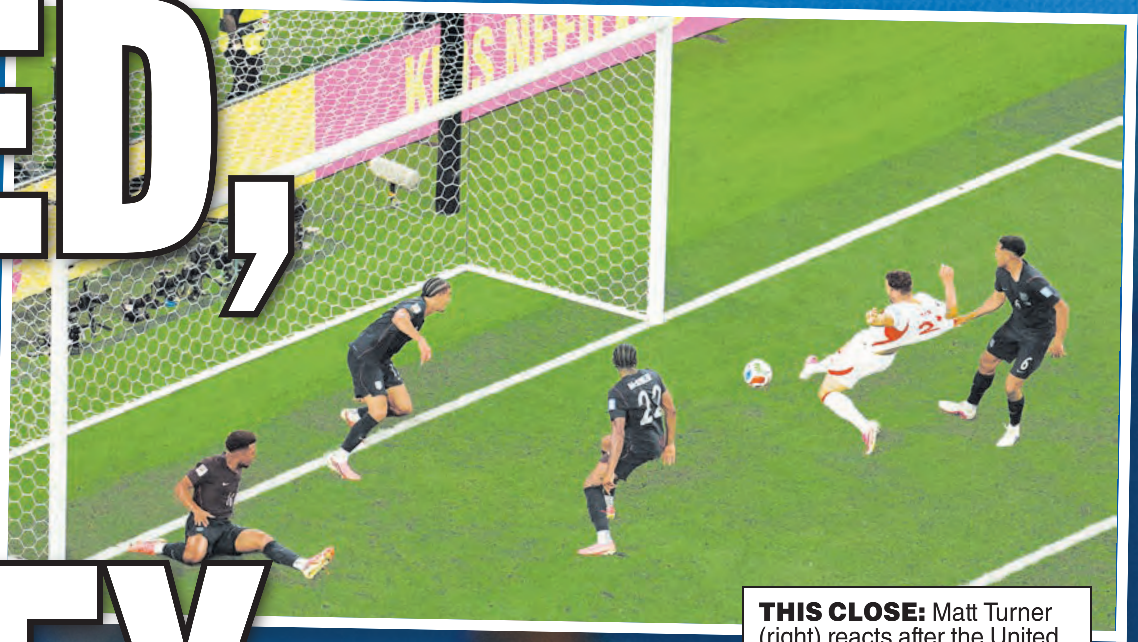
KICKED, COLD TURKEY

U.S. loses meaningless finale at last second, but now real work begins against Bosnia



THIS CLOSE: Matt Turner (right) reacts after the United States surrendered a goal on the last kick of the game to Turkey, losing 3-2 with mostly backups in the finale of the group stage. Getty Images; AP

By ETHAN SEARS

TURKEY	**3**	**Group D**
UNITED STATES	**2**	

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — The U.S. national team's dream World Cup had to hit a snag somewhere.

That it happened Thursday night after Mauricio Pochettino rolled out a side with nine of 11 starters rotated in an unconsequential group-stage finale is, at least, hard to get that worked up about.

Exactly what this 3-2 loss, courtesy of Kaan Ayhan's winner, revealed is, mostly, that the USMNT's depth — particularly in defense — is a serious hole, something most keen observers already suspected, and which, if everyone stays healthy, won't come into play in the knockouts.

Still, it is deflating to cede a stoppage-time winner when things had been rolling along so well. Whether it affects what's been an immaculate vibe in training ahead of next week's Round of 32 showdown with Bosnia and Herzegovina — officially confirmed as the opponent about an hour before kickoff at SoFi Stadium — remains to be seen.

"I think at certain times we could've controlled the game a little better," midfielder Sebastian Berhalter said. "Got the ball better in their half. Positioning too, first half felt like we were a little all over the place, maybe had too many guys behind the ball and not enough in front of the ball but again, this was a group that was ready and itching to play and again, I'm proud of everyone. Everyone should be proud of themselves."

There are two big positives to come from the night. First, Christian Pulisic playing the final 32 minutes after coming on for Tim Weah was exactly what needed to happen before the knockout stages. Second, the team's heart and fight after Berhalter woke them up with a 49th-minute smash from 20 yards that tied the game 2-2 is nothing but commendable.

Pulisic's impact, in a moment where the U.S. was already gaining momentum, was immediate. He was dynamic on the ball, creative and willing to take on defenders, functioning as a reminder of how unique his ability is to this team.

In choosing to keep only Weston McKennie and Ricardo Pepi from the starting 11 against Australia in Seattle, though, Pochettino will have been willing to take the risk of a loss in the name of a clean bill of health, whether he wants to admit it or not.

He went for three points late, though, bringing on starters Sergiño Dest and Alex Freeman along with Alex Zendejas in a bid for the winner.

That never did come; after the hydration break, Turkey looked the slightly more threatening side, though both had their chances.

Auston Trusty's injury — which appeared to be to his ankle — with mere minutes to go put a damper on the night, and left the U.S. to finish out stoppage time with 10 men, having used all of their substitutions.

Doing that without ceding a winner proved an impossible ask. Trusty did come back for the final minute, but could only limp around as Turkey finally broke through, Kaan Ayhan scoring in the ninth minute of stoppage time and on the game's final kick to secure a 3-2 win.

The four-man back line of Trusty, Miles Robinson, Mark McKenzie and Joe Scally looked totally out of its depth. McKenzie was caught flat-footed on Arda Güler's 10th-minute strike; Scally never saw Orkun Kökçü running in behind him 21 minutes later to hand the Yanks their first deficit of the tournament.

Trusty, at least, put a goal on the board after 134 seconds, smashing the ball in after Berhalter pinged a corner to the far post right onto Trusty's foot. With that goal three minutes in — following the seven and 11 minutes it took to score against Paraguay and Australia — it looked like the party would keep rolling. It didn't.

Berhalter struggled defensively, getting booked early, but made up for it with the ball at his feet. Four minutes into the second half, he corked one from outside the box to tie the game 2-2.

Tim Weah, starting at left wing, struggled with his first touch and made a negative impact for much of the night. Gio Reyna dribbled into trouble; Brenden Aaronson and Pepi were hardly noticeable.

Turkey, motivated to bring at least some kind of result home after enduring white-hot criticism, offered a glimpse of what might have been.

The Americans, meanwhile, are still waiting to break a losing streak against European competition that has stretched nearly five years, all the way back to Dec. 18, 2021.

The team they beat that day, not too far from here in Carson, Calif.? Bosnia and Herzegovina.

esears@nypost.com

There's still plenty of reason to celebrate

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — This night, from its beginning, was always going to be a celebration for the U.S. national team.

Not a coronation, because there is much more work to be done before this World Cup can be considered a resounding success for the home side.

But a celebration — as Group D winners for the work that was done in the previous two matches before kickoff against Turkey on Thursday night at SoFi Stadium.

This represented the rarest of rarities for the U.S. in World Cup play in that no result was *needed* in the third and final group match — whether it be to advance to the knockout round or seeding/positioning for it.

Never in America's history in the World Cup has it been in this position of power before, playing a third group match without a shred of angst.

Thanks to the resounding victories over Paraguay (4-1) and Australia (2-0), this night was always going to be a 90-minute no-stress express for the Americans. They could have lost 6-0 to Turkey and still moved on to the round of 32 as winners of Group D.

No result — win, lose or draw — could enhance or deter the U.S. positioning for its first knockout-round match, July 1 in Santa Clara, Calif., against Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Still, the Americans wanted this one, burning to make history as the first U.S. team to win all three matches in group play.

They wanted the nine points, the final three coming from Thursday night, and they didn't come.

The U.S., by virtue of a 3-2 loss on a killer Turkey game-winner coming in the 98th minute, would fail to add to the six points it accumulated in the first two group matches.

"I think we deserved more out of that game," Sebastian Berhalter, who scored the second of the two U.S. goals, said. "We slipped in the last second of the game, and I think we're proud of the performance we put in. I think the guys did well, and we fought, and unfortunately didn't get the result, but we'll be ready for [the knockout round]."

AND BREATHE ... American fans got a surprising but welcome no-stakes final match of the group stage Thursday, even if it ended up as a gut-punch loss.
Imagn Images

Mark Cannizzaro

"I'm not worried at all," Brenden Aaronsen said. "The team's in a great spot. It was two quality plays where [Turkey] scored, and there's not much you can do about it, you've got to move on.

"The reaction in the second half was very, very good. We came back out, tied the game up. But of course they score in the last minute — credit to them."

With nine new starters from the previous match, the U.S. began the game with a palpable hunger and intensity.

Two minutes and 15 seconds in, Auston Trusty drilled a left-footed rocket into the back of the Turkey net to give the U.S. a 1-0 lead and send the capacity crowd into a frenzy.

Immediately after the goal, Trusty and his teammates sprinted to the team bench on the sideline and celebrated wildly.

It was the third consecutive game that the U.S. jumped to a lead in the first minutes, and this looked like it really was going to be a walkover.

The U.S. euphoria, however, was short-lived as Turkey, which entered the match having taken a record 62 shots in its first two games without scoring a goal, delivered two of them in a span of 21 minutes to take a 2-1 lead into the half.

It was an Arda Güler goal just seven minutes after the Trusty tally that tied it at 1-1 in the 10th minute. And then Orkun Kökçü gave Turkey a 2-1 lead in the 31st minute.

This marked the first time the U.S. has faced even a hint of adversity in this World Cup. It was the first time the Americans have trailed.

Of most concern was that both goals came on U.S. defensive breakdowns.

On the first, it was Bronx-born Mark McKenzie letting a ball go in the midfield, leaving Turkey on a fast break after having broken down the U.S. defense.

On the second, Long Island's Joe Scally got caught inside and McKenzie stood frozen in front of the goal mouth as Kökçü beat U.S. No. 2 keeper Matt Turner, who had no chance.

Turkey was looking to spoil the massive American party, and it had the U.S. playing on the back foot for the rest of the first half.

In somewhat of a surprise, U.S. manager Mauricio Pochettino sent the same 11 out for the second half.

And he was rewarded when Sebastian Berhalter tied it at 2-2 just 3:06 into the second half. It was his second career goal for the U.S., and it was a beauty: a low, skidding blast from just outside the box.

The goal ignited the U.S. side, which added Christian Pulisic to the pitch as a sub in the 58th minute to roars from the capacity crowd.

And Pulisic wasted little time, with several big scoring chances shortly after he subbed in, once hitting the post with a shot off his shin in the 63rd minute.

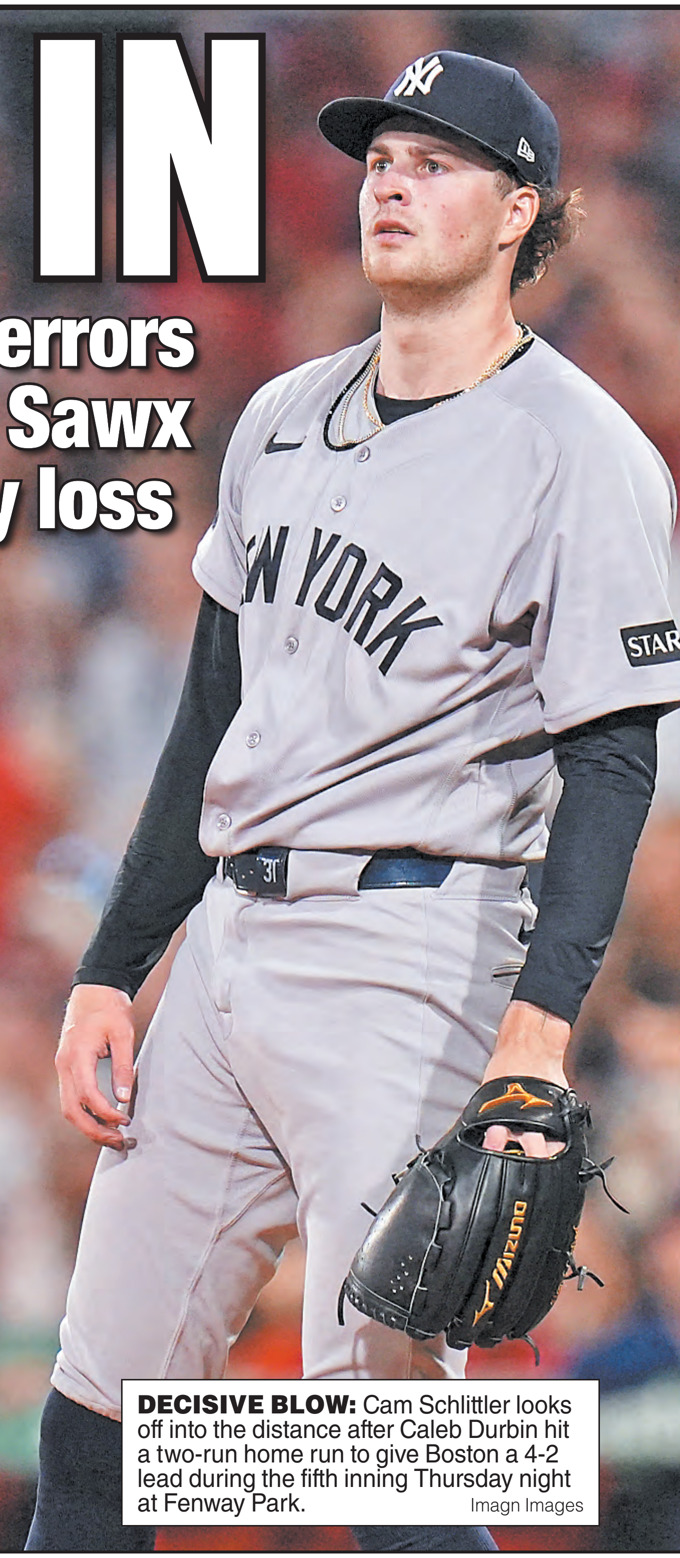
In the end, it wasn't the result the Americans wanted.

Still, they'll march into the knockout round with reasons to celebrate thanks to the great start, rebounding from the breakdowns, handling the adversity in the second half, and the positives from Pulisic ... there was reason to celebrate for the Americans as they move on to the knockout stage.

mcannizzaro@nypost.com

BUMBLING IN BOSTON

Yanks' 4 errors help fuel Sawx in sloppy loss


DECISIVE BLOW: Cam Schlittler looks off into the distance after Caleb Durbin hit a two-run home run to give Boston a 4-2 lead during the fifth inning Thursday night at Fenway Park. Imagn Images

By GREG JOYCE

BOSTON — Cam Schlittler played with fire for four innings and got away with it.

But then in the fifth, his defense added some lighter fluid, and his start went up in flames.

After Amed Rosario let a smoked ground ball go through his legs instead of turning a potential inning-ending double play, the first of four unearned runs came in on Schlittler to sink the Yankees in a sloppy 6-3 loss to the Red Sox on Thursday night at a sold-out Fenway Park.

RED SOX 6
YANKEES 3

Boxscore Page 44

Former Yankees prospect Caleb Durbin delivered the deciding blow before the fifth inning was over, taking Schlittler deep for a two-run shot just over the Green Monster to break a 2-2 tie.

The Yankees tried to mount a comeback in the ninth against their former closer, Aroldis Chapman, who loaded the bases with two outs before finally shutting the door.

It was a messy loss for the Yankees (48-32), who committed a season-high four errors — making all six of the runs their pitchers allowed the unearned variety — and wasted some chances to cash in offensively before the scuffling Red Sox (33-46) came alive.

"At the end of the day, I was giving them opportunities," said Schlittler, who struck out nine across five innings. "Feel like I battled those first four [innings], getting myself out of those jams. Then I made a mistake there in the fifth."

The offense, meanwhile, could not pick up the defense, going 3-for-11 with runners in scoring position — including Ben Rice, the Yankees' best hitter, going 0-for-4 in those situations and leaving seven men on base.

Schlittler stranded a pair of runners in each of the first, second and fourth innings. He might have been able to do it again in the fifth, until Rosario's fielding error opened the floodgates.

"We just didn't do a good job of taking care of the ball tonight," manager Aaron Boone said. "Just not up to the way we've been playing or are capable of playing. Ultimately, it was too much to overcome."

The Yankees led 2-0 entering the inning before Schlittler issued a leadoff walk to Masataka Yoshida and then gave up a single to Ceddanne Rafaela. He followed that up by striking out Wilyer Abreu on a 100 mph sinker for the second time of the night.

But Willson Contreras came up next and drilled a 112.8 mph ground ball to third base, where Rosario got his glove down but not far enough as the ball zoomed right underneath it, scoring Yoshida to make it 2-1.

"That's definitely a play I got to make," Rosario said through an interpreter. "You at least got to find a way to knock it down and at least get one out."

Jarren Duran then lifted a sacrifice fly to medium-depth left field, as José Caballero — whose solo homer in the fourth made it a 2-0 game — got off a throw home that was up the first base line, allowing the Red Sox to tie it.

The hot-hitting Durbin, whom the Yankees sent to the Brewers in the Devin Williams trade (before the Red Sox acquired him this February), capped off the rally by crushing Schlittler's cutter into the Monster seats for the 4-2 lead.

The Yankees later made it a one-run game in the seventh when Paul Goldschmidt, on the 12th pitch of a battle with former Yankees reliever Greg Weissert, hit a chopper to third that allowed Jazz Chisholm Jr. to score from third.

But the Red Sox brought in lefty Danny Coulombe to face Ben Rice, who could not deliver the big swing in his hometown, instead grounding out to end the rally.

The Red Sox then added a pair of insurance runs in the eighth after Yerry De los Santos bobbled a sacrifice bunt and Anthony Volpe threw wide on the second half of a potential inning-ending double play.

gjoyce@nypost.com

Grisham closing in on making return from right

By GREG JOYCE

YANKEES NOTES

BOSTON — Trent Grisham could be about a week away from returning to the Yankees.

The center fielder met the team at Fenway Park on Thursday and is set to go through a full slate of baseball activities during this series — he did some defensive work in the outfield and took batting practice before Thursday's series opener — before likely going out on a rehab assignment.

Grisham, who has been on the injured list since June 13 with a moderate right hamstring strain, has a chance to return sooner than the Yankees initially expected if he can get through the final steps of his recovery without issue.

"He's doing really well," manager Aaron Boone said Thursday. "It's been encouraging. He'll probably hit the bases … a couple times this weekend while we're here. But he's getting close."

Grisham will then "probably" play in at least a rehab game or two, Boone said, to make sure he is all good to cover center field before making his return.

➤ **Aaron Judge**, **Cody Bellinger** and **Ben Rice** advanced to the second phase of All-Star voting Thursday, giving them a chance to start for the American League in the Midsummer Classic next month in Philadelphia (though Judge would not be ready to play in the game because of his rib injury).

In the first phase of fan voting, Judge received the most votes of any AL outfielder while Bellinger finished fourth (the top six outfielders advanced).

Rice, meanwhile, finished second among AL first basemen, receiving just over half as many votes as Blue Jays star **Vladimir Guerrero Jr.**

Rice and Guerrero will be pitted against each other (as will the six outfielders) for the starting honor in the next round of voting, which concludes July 2.

➤ **Paul Goldschmidt**, who led off the game with

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NEW YORK POST
YANKEES
Brent HEADRICK PITCHER
2026 Yankees POSTER SERIES

INSIDE
BRENT HEADRICK POSTER!
PAGES 36-37

hamstring strain

a double against Red Sox lefty **Connelly Early**, is batting .418 with a 1.323 OPS in 79 at-bats against lefties.

➤ After the game, the Yankees optioned **J.C. Escarra** to Triple-A, clearing the way for **Ali Sánchez** to be activated off the paternity list Friday.

➤ This marks the second Yankees-Red Sox series since **Alex Cora** got fired, but Boone — who said he has spoken to his friend and former counterpart "a couple times" since he was let go — indicated it was still strange not to see him in the dugout across the field.

Montefiore Einstein
Official Hospital of the New York Yankees

Two legendary New York institutions. One team.
Montefiore Einstein
Official Hospital of the New York Yankees

INJURY REPORT

- **Trent Grisham** (right hamstring strain) met the Yankees at Fenway Park and will go through full baseball activities this weekend before likely going on a rehab assignment by next week.
- **Max Fried** (left elbow bone bruise) and Clarke Schmidt (Tommy John rehab) are both expected to face hitters next week when the Yankees return home.

ON DECK

at Red Sox

Friday, 7:10 p.m., YES, WFAN (660 AM, 101.9 FM)

RHP Will Warren

2026 stats:
7-2, 3.45 ERA

Career vs. BOS:
1-2, 9.42 ERA

Last start:
Sat., vs. CIN;
5.2 IP, 8 H, 2 ER

PITCH BREAKDOWN

40%	28%	21%
4-Seamer	Sinker	Sweeper

LHP Payton Tolle

2026 stats:
3-5, 3.08 ERA

Career vs. NYY:
0-0, 1.50 ERA

Last start:
Sun., at SEA;
6.0 IP, 6 H, 3 ER

PITCH BREAKDOWN

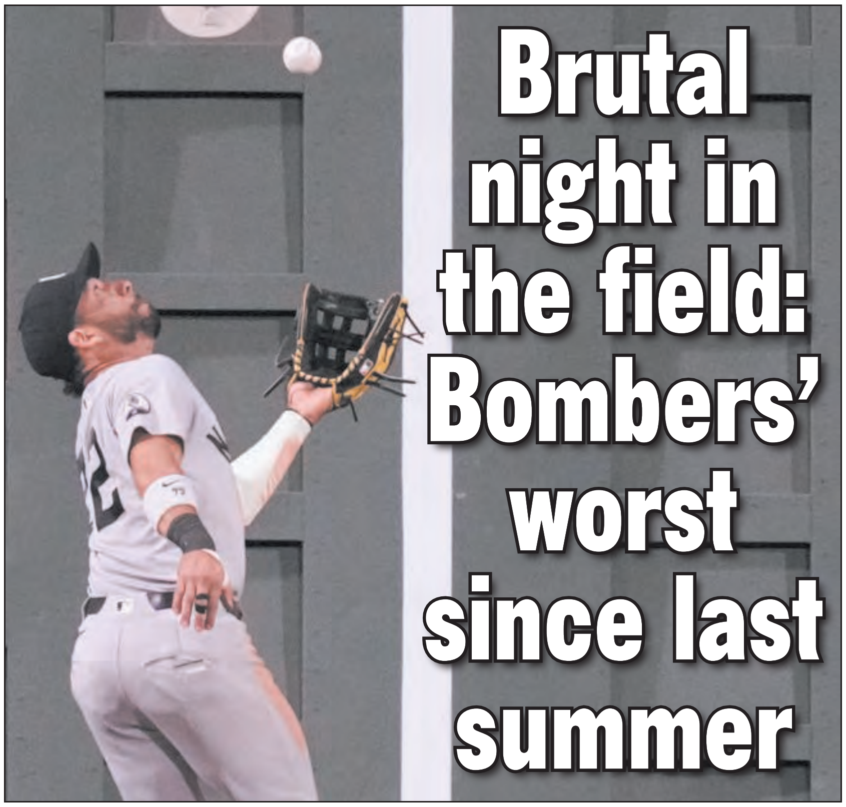
50%	23%	16%
4-Seamer	Sinker	Cutter

UP NEXT

SATURDAY: at Red Sox, 1:10 p.m., ABC, WFAN
RHP Gerrit Cole vs. LHP Jake Bennett

SUNDAY: at Red Sox, 7:20 p.m., NBC, WFAN
LHP Carlos Rodón vs. RHP Sonny Gray

Brutal night in the field: Bombers' worst since last summer



HE CAUGHT THIS ONE: José Caballero catches a flyout hit by Wilyer Abreu during the seventh inning, but his errant throw in the fifth proved costly in defeat. AP

By DAN MARTIN

BOSTON — The Yankees have stayed atop the AL East even in Aaron Judge's absence for numerous reasons, but playing clean baseball could be at the top of the list.

With less margin for error, there's less room for defensive mistakes.

So the season-high four errors they made in Thursday's 6-3 loss to the Red Sox were especially tough.

And even as they made the most errors in a game since the four they committed in a loss to Boston at Yankee Stadium last Aug. 21, there were even more miscues than the ones that made the stat sheet.

"We just didn't do a good job taking care of the ball," Aaron Boone said. "It's not up to where we've been playing or capable of playing. Ultimately, it was too much to overcome."

Among the culprits was José Caballero, whose defensive versatility is part of what the Yankees were looking for when they acquired him from Tampa Bay last season.

But they probably didn't foresee him starting in left field five times over an eight-game period as he's been forced to with Judge and Trent Grisham sidelined.

Caballero avoided making an error and made a nice running catch on Wilyer Abreu's fly ball to deep left to open the bottom of the seventh, but his errant throw on Jarren Duran's very shallow fly ball two innings earlier allowed Ceddanne Rafaela to score and helped Boston take control of the game.

The fact that Rafaela even tried to score on the play indicated what the Red Sox thought of Caballero in left.

"I try to help the team as much as I can," said Caballero, who has started eight games in left in his career. "We have a lot of needs in the outfield right now."

Asked if he was surprised Rafaela was sent, Caballero said he anticipated it.

"They've been challenging me a lot," Caballero said of opposing teams looking to take advantage of his lack of experience at the position. "They know I'm new in the outfield. I expected him to go, and he did."

As for his throw home, which took Austin Wells away from the plate, Caballero said, "I put good velo on it. It was just a little off the line. And mistakes happen."

Prior to the game, Boone said he considered Jasson Domínguez in left and acknowledged Cody Bellinger as their best left fielder, but the Yankees went with Caballero in front of the Green Monster and Amed Rosario at third base.

Rosario let Willson Contreras' rocket 112 mph grounder go through his legs for a two-base error in the fifth, which allowed the first of four unearned runs to score against Cam Schlittler.

This is the predicament the Yankees find themselves in with Judge and Grisham on the injured list.

The issues weren't limited to the outfield, as Wells was charged with an error on a catcher's interference that wiped away a groundout by Abreu in the first.

Schlittler threw a pickoff attempt at second base that went into center field for an error, and the right-hander also watched Caleb Durbin's pop-up drop in front of him for an infield single in the second.

Yerry De los Santos made the fourth error of the night in the eighth.

dan.martin@nypost.com

More Yankees / Page 52

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6th straight loss delivered by PCA

By ANDREW CRANE

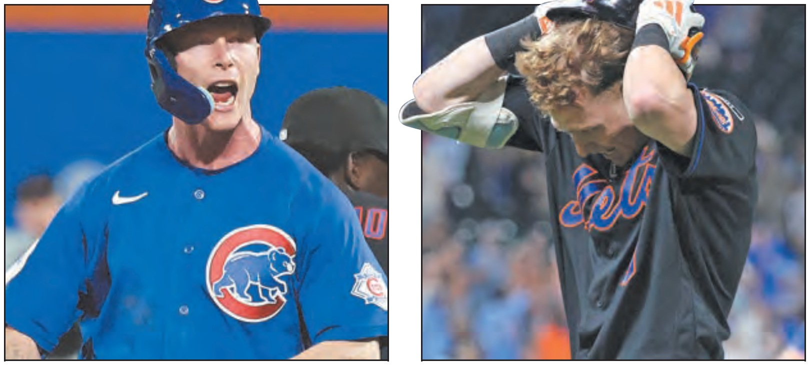
Just when it seemed like the Mets might quiet the noise — around their manager, around their president of baseball operations, around everyone in the clubhouse associated with this dismal season spiraling toward the trade deadline — for one night, they still found a way to lose. Just when the offense was actually able to fix the latest mess that the defense made to give them a chance in extras, it still wasn't enough.

CUBS	**4**	**10 innings**
METS	**3**	**Box./Page 44**

This time, less than 24 hours after the Mets and Cubs made a trade in what might be a summer full of them, the centerpiece of the two clubs' last major deal issued a reminder of why it aged so poorly for his former team. Pete Crow-Armstrong — the former Mets prospect sent to Chicago in the 2021 Javier Báez deal — doubled home the winning run for the Cubs in the 10th off Brooks Raley. Eric Wagaman, Brett Baty and Carson Benge couldn't find a way to get Ronny Mauricio home in the bottom of the frame. And it sent the Mets to a 4-3 loss as their losing streak extended to six and they inched closer to the seemingly inevitable decision to sell at the deadline.

"That's the reality," Carlos Mendoza said when asked about that after the season hit its official midway point one night after David Peterson was traded to Chicago. "Especially if we don't start playing better. Obviously, we gotta be honest here. But we can't be thinking about what-if. Our job is to do what we need to do now."

This time, the Mets (34-47) found a way to punch back after a pair of errors by Mauricio — or, if the fans at Citi Field had any say in the official scoring, Mark Vientos — and Benge gave the Cubs a three-run lead. Wagaman first stepped into a fastball on the first pitch from Ethan Roberts and sent it over the left field fence and then, Jared Young sent a curveball from ex-Met Phil Maton over the right field fence.



REMEMBER ME? Pete Crow-Armstrong celebrates his go-ahead double, as Carson Benge (right) and the Mets were unable to answer in the bottom of the 10th inning of a 4-3 loss at Citi Field. Charles Wenzelberg / NY Post (2)

But until that point, Thursday had started to unfold as the worst type of encore for the Mets one night after they committed six errors in a game. Mauricio one-hopped a throw that Vientos couldn't scoop, leading to one Cubs run. After Mauricio's error, fans at Citi Field brought back the "Pete Alonso" chants from Wednesday. They blamed Vientos for allowing Dansby Swanson to reach base more than Mauricio, who was starting at shortstop and playing in his first game since May 2. Swanson then advanced to second on a groundout and came around to score when ex-Met Michael Conforto lined a single to right field.

One out later, the Mets defense cratered again. Alex Bregman lined a ball up the right field line, but Benge couldn't time the bounce off the wall. Conforto scored on the play. Bregman ended up on third, making it easy to score when Ian Happ singled. When it all added up at the end of the frame, Freddy Peralta — cruising to that point — had allowed three unearned runs.

"It's just routine plays that are just costing us," Mendoza said. "At this level, you expect to make plays like that. Those are routine plays. You understand that they're not gonna be perfect, but those are routine as it gets."

The Mets had their chances, though. They loaded the bases in the third inning before Vientos fouled out. Had runners on first and second the next frame, too, with Mauricio's double keying it all, before Baty grounded out. Loaded the bases again in the sixth after Wagaman's blast, with Juan Soto grounding out, too.

Peralta recovered from his 10-run outing to cruise through five innings before the defense ruined his final two-thirds of a frame. He struck out five batters, walked another one and allowed five hits in an outing that, if nothing else, could boost the pending free agent's trade value when the end of July arrives.

"Everybody in here's frustrated," Wagaman said. "I think we know what our record is. ... We can't get all those wins back in one day. We just have to start stacking them and take it day by day."

acrane@nypost.com

Soto avoids IL, gets back in lineup

By ANDREW CRANE

METS NOTES

The Mets had at least something go right for them, as Juan Soto avoided the injured list and was back in the lineup for the Amazin's 4-3 loss in 10 innings in the series finale against the Cubs after exiting Tuesday's game with back tightness.

Carlos Mendoza hoped pregame that Soto — who also missed time earlier this season with a calf injury — would be able to play, prompting the Mets to release their starting lineup later than expected until they received some clarity. He hit third and served as the designated hitter, went 1-for-3 and left the bases loaded in the sixth inning. Mendoza, who didn't have any clarity on when Soto could return to the outfield, was satisfied that Soto even wanted to play — as opposed to just being available as a pinch hitter after missing both games Wednesday.

"He looked normal," Mendoza said. "There was no hesitation. I mean, he was swinging as hard as possible. Normal at-bats."

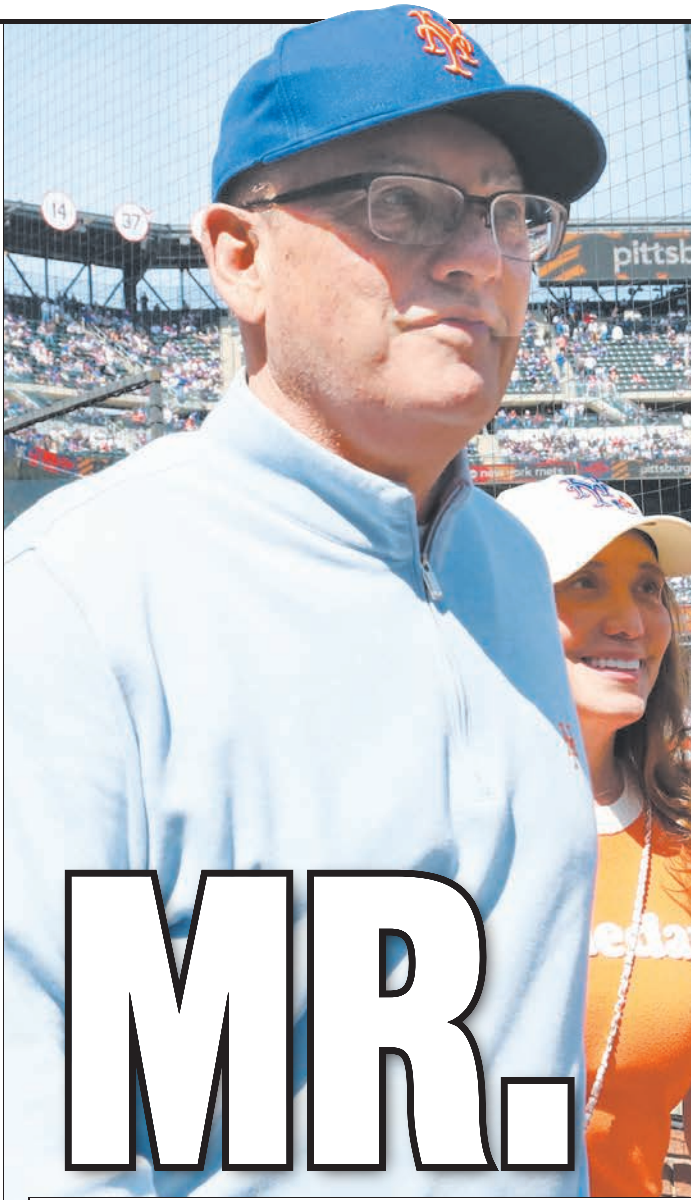
A trip to the IL would've been another nightmare for the Mets in a season full of them. Soto, who entered Thursday's game with a .299 average, .965 OPS and 17 homers, has been one of the only pieces of their lineup to produce. Francisco Lindor just returned from his calf strain Wednesday and Luis Robert Jr. (lumbar spine disc herniation), Jorge Polanco (left Achilles bursitis, right wrist contusion) and Marcus Semien (left hip flexor strain) are all on the injured list.

The hope that Soto was only day to day turned out to be accurate. He avoided another stint on the IL after missing 15 games in April. The Mets, for once, caught an injury break.

➤ Lefty **Zach Thornton**, who made his MLB debut last month, will pitch Friday against the Phillies with **Christian Scott** (right hip impingement) getting activated from the injured list to start Saturday. The decision comes after **David Peterson** was traded to the Cubs.

Thornton — the No. 12 Mets prospect, according to MLB Pipeline — allowed four runs on four hits across 4 1/3 innings against the Nationals in his lone MLB start.

More Mets / Page 52



MR.

THE THROUGH line of institutional memory for that segment of Baseball New York that cares for the Mets is a consistent one: a 64-year loop of head scratches and facepalms and shoulder shrugs intermittently interrupted by moments of rapture every bit as surprising as they are fleeting. This is really not even up for debate. That's simply the way it is. It's the way it always has been.

Sometimes, that can be misinterpreted as acceptance. But it never is. There is mythology now that Mets fans got a kick out of every one of the 737 games the team lost in its first seven years of existence, but that fable doesn't hold up with what life as a Mets fan was really like. It was hard. It was frustrating. It wasn't nearly as much fun as it's been portrayed.

Same as the Grant's Tomb Mets of the 1970s.

Same as the Bobby Bo Mets of the 1990s.

Same as Art Howe's Mets. And Jerry Manuel's Mets. And Mickey Callaway's Mets.

Same as the 2026 Mets.

Mets fans are angry right now, and here is the surprising message I have for David Stearns and Steve Cohen, the architect and the financier of this rolling calamity: Enjoy the anger. Savor it. Revel in it. Because it's going to vanish soon. And that's when the true scope of this unrelenting tire fire will be felt.

Soon — and very soon, maybe on-the-wrong-side-of-the-Fourth-of-July soon — the fury will dissolve and what'll be left is apathy. And in sports, apathy is death.

Right now, Mets fans can still boil at the notion that Stearns' job doesn't seem to be in jeopardy — and, look, given how long Cohen waited to hire him and how completely he empowered him, you can at least understand why the owner would be reluctant to completely detonate that road, no matter how

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FORGET ME NOT: Steve Cohen is staying committed to his GM and manager, but as the 2026 season keeps spiraling, he risks losing fans and not getting them back. Robert Sabo (2)

ON DECK: vs. Phillies

Friday, 7:10 p.m., PIX11, WHSQ (880 AM)

LHP Zach Thornton	RHP Zack Wheeler
2026 stats: 0-1, 8.31 ERA	**2026 stats:** 7-1, 2.11 ERA
Career vs. PHI: First start	**Career vs. NYM:** 6-5, 3.36 ERA
Last start: May 20 at WSH; 4.1 IP, 4 H, 4 ER	**Last start:** Sunday vs. NYM; 5.2 IP, 2 ER, 7 SO

PITCH BREAKDOWN (Thornton)

50%	28%	11%
Cutter	4-Seamer	Sweeper

PITCH BREAKDOWN (Wheeler)

37%	16%	14%
4-Seamer	Sinker	Sweeper

UP NEXT

SATURDAY: vs. Phillies, 4:10 p.m., SNY, WHSQ
RHP Christian Scott vs. RHP Alan Rangel

SUNDAY: vs. Phillies, 1:40 p.m., SNY, WHSQ
RHP Tobias Meyers vs. LHP Jesús Luzardo

INJURY REPORT

- **Marcus Semien** was placed on the 10-day injured list with a left hip flexor strain.
- **Juan Soto** (back tightness) returned to the lineup after missing the doubleheader Wednesday.

IRRELEVANT?

Cohen risks letting flailing Mets meet worst fate in sports: apathy

littered with failure it already is.

Right now, it seems that while Mets fans may actually feel sorry for Carlos Mendoza — Muggsy McGraw would have a hard time squeezing 72 wins out of this illogical and ill-fitting roster — they might stick around a few extra weeks if it meant a new voice in the dugout. Because that would mean Cohen would have finally had enough of this in the same way they do.

The Mets don't have anyone waiting in the wings the way the Phillies did, with Don Mattingly. They also don't have baseball players in their employ as good as the ones the Phillies do. Changing the manager isn't a magic bullet. It's no fail-safe elixir. But even if you're inclined to give Mendoza the benefit of the doubt, it's fair to ask this question:

Do the Mets look like a well-managed team to you?

Just because the GM has done a worse job, does that excuse a D-plus job from the manager?

Not every Mets fan feels that way. A lot of them do. I hear from a lot of you. And just about everyone I hear from wonders the same thing:

"Is Steve Cohen daring me to simply go away?"

And to me, that's the most frightening issue facing the Mets. For decades, the team could rely on the inexplicable pull that teams have on you. It grew almost exhausting the past few months watching Knicks fans test each other's loyalty by seeing who could name their favorite obscure Knick from the bad old days. (Let's call that the Pat Cummings Postulate.)

But the point of the exercise was pure: Sometimes unconditional loyalty does pay dividends.

Mike Vaccaro

But that feels rarer and rarer, even among Mets fans who are just as fond of bringing up Bruce Boisclair and Anthony Young and Mr. Koo. And look, we used to kill the Wilpons plenty for caring too much about fan whims and backlash, but there's dishonor in the other extreme, too. Stearns seemed to take almost cold-blooded delight in exiling fan favorites. Cohen has been deaf to the growing outcries, done little to rebut them.

(Which is what made the "Pete Alonso!" chants the other night so devastating. And delicious.)

How long can they do this and expect people to keep taking their lashings?

And I get it: It sounds a little melodramatic to say this, but I think the Mets and Cohen are at a pretty dramatic crossroads. They're about to reach the red zone with their fans, where the anger is muted forever, replaced by indifference and worse. Worse?

Worse. I know a lot of longtime Mets fans who have already begun to cope — there's the leader in the clubhouse for 2026 word of the year in sports, "cope." A lot of them are Knicks fans. A lot of them have been taken by the World Cup. Soon football camps will open. They will not be obsessively refreshing the Gamecast function on their phones.

That's all bad enough. But with labor Armageddon looming … well, if you back up the collapsing catastrophe of last year with the unwatchable mess of this year and *then* add no baseball at all in 2027? Baseball's economics are different from 1977-83 and 1992-96 and even 2009-14, and so is the landscape.

UNCLE STEVE,
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WHAT IS OUR R.OI?
THE WORST
TEAM IN
BASEBALL
THIS IS STEARNS
ANALYTICS
MASTER CLASS!!

Newer fans are already happy to find something else to do, and few of them mimic the older generations, whose baseball affinity has been so deeply rooted that they'd accept all manner of mistreatment and keep coming back.

But sure. Cohen can also keep trotting the same people out day after day and passively hope for the best. Worked in 1967, and 1987, and 2017. Mets fans have always admitted to a certain nobility in the suffering which makes the occasional forays to glory twice as sweet. Maybe that'll still be the case whenever this darkness abates, even if he does nothing. I'm dubious.

mvaccaro@nypost.com

AcornTV

STREAM IT OR SKIP IT

The addition of Joe Lando has given **"Harry Wild"** (Acorn TV) a new dynamic, and we're looking forward to seeing him and **Jane Seymour** (left) working together in the show's fifth season.

OUR CALL: STREAM IT

WHAT TO WATCH

"Color Book" (Netflix) is a powerful, affecting drama that paints a portrait of enduring fatherhood. You won't easily forget it. The pairing of **Will Catlett** (far left) and first-time actor **Jeremiah Alexander Daniels** (left) capitalizes on their intuitive performances – they frequently improvised within their scenes—resulting in a truly memorable character study.

For more on your favorite TV and films, visit decider.com

DECIDER

WHAT TO WATCH. WHEREVER YOU WATCH

FINDING THEIR CHARACTERS

'I Will Find You' stars Britt Lower and Sam Worthington break down the dual nature of their current and past roles

By HOPE SLOOP

Is there anything a parent wouldn't do for their child?

****Spoiler warning: This article contains spoilers for the entire first season of "I Will Find You" on Netflix****

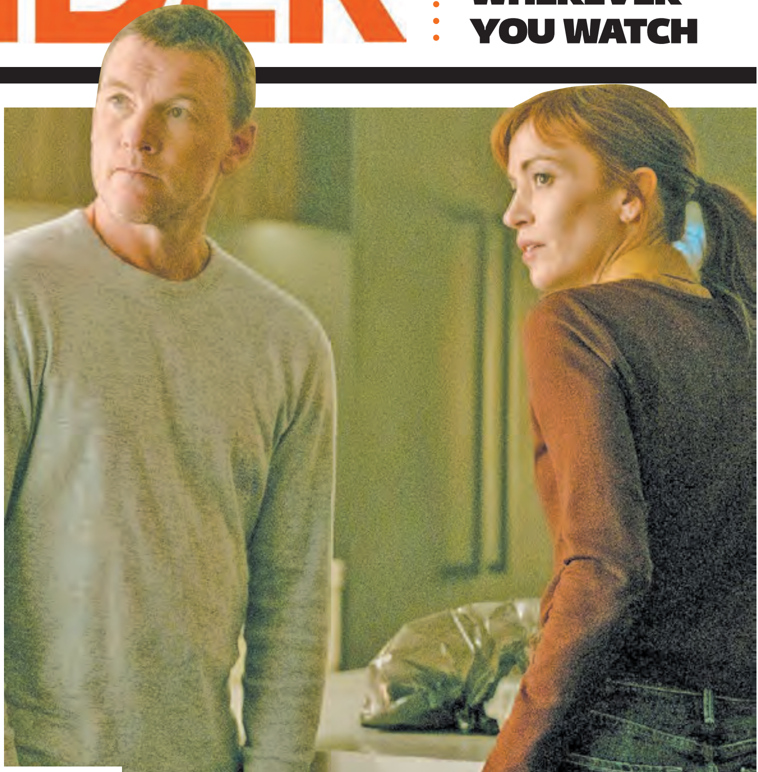
That's the question at the heart of Sam Worthington and Britt Lower's new Netflix series, "I Will Find You," and it's something the pair of actors know all too well. The show, which follows David Burroughs (Worthington), a father who was convicted of killing his son more than half a decade ago, sets out alongside his sister-in-law (Lower) to discover the truth about what really happened to his child.

In the show — which is based on the bestselling Harlan Coben novel of the same name — David's hopes for exonerating himself are set anew and multiplied as he not only discovers that there may be a way to prove his innocence, but also that his son may still be alive. For Worthington and Lower, it was the central theme that played on many different levels, especially as parents themselves.

"All of us in this series have young kids, actually," Lower told DECIDER in a recent interview. "Erin Richards, Milo [Ventimiglia], Sam, and myself, we kind of bonded over it. When you have young people in your lives, you would just do anything for them."

Lower is a stepmom to two children she shares with her husband, Kenna Kennor; meanwhile, Worthington has three sons with his wife, Lara Worthington. And they're not just talking the talk, either. In 2025, Lower went viral for a Golden Globes interview where she said she was committed to getting Ariana Grande's autograph for her stepdaughter, no matter the cost. Can you blame her?

"At the core of this story is, 'What you will do for your family and especially for a young person,'" Lower told DECIDER, adding that she did eventually accomplish her goal to impress her own child with Grande's signature. Clearly, she can relate to the idea of going above and beyond for someone you love, just like David and her own character do in "I Will Find You." "Matthew is their total drive this whole series."



Netflix

Sam Worthington and Britt Lower (above, left) star in "I Will Find You."

DECIDER: I want to start by asking: you both have a history of playing two versions of the same character [in "Avatar" and "Severance"]. Is that something you thought about and bonded over?

BRITT LOWER: I hadn't thought about that. We bonded over being birthday twins. First of all, we both have the same birthday, August 2nd. And yeah, I hadn't thought about the dual nature of both of our roles. That's cool. Now that you've said it, we're going to have to think about it some more.

Given your experience with those dual-natured characters, do you find that it's easier to step into a role like this or do you find it more challenging overall?

SAM WORTHINGTON: I think you do it more than me [in "Severance"].

LOWER: Yeah, maybe. I think what I've learned from working on "Severance" is that every person, every character, has multiple sides of themselves, and especially in a complex series like this, there's always going to be dueling tensions within the character. So to find that light in that darkness, the strong and the soft muscle as you were talking about is always helpful. We do have different ways that we show up in different environments and different shapes that we take on, even if you are just one person.

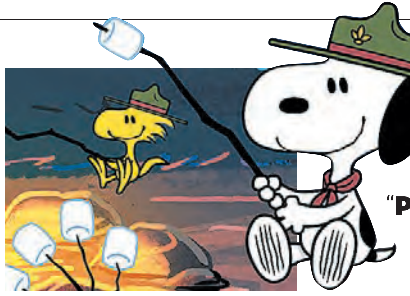
Talk to me about reading those final two episodes [of "I Will Find You"] and seeing how things shook out.

WORTHINGTON: It's very complex. It's one of those ones where it's quite complicated really, to unpack. But I think those twists and turns are what make Harlan's work. The fact that they are complicated, that they do misdirect you in a completely different way. I think that's the exciting part. What they've done with Milo and that character is very interesting. I think it was more of a shock to Milo than anybody else, to be honest.

Paramount+

TRENDING NOW

In the Duttons, we trust! **"Dutton Ranch"** has landed a Season 2 renewal at Paramount+, meaning more is in store for the **"Yellowstone"** spinoff series following its Season 1 finale. which begins streaming on Friday, July 3.



WHAT'S NEW

ON APPLE TV

"**Camp Snoopy**," the Season 2 premiere (left).

ON DISNEY+/HULU

"**Paul Simon: The Quiet Celebration Concert**," a two-hour concert special.

Best Bets

What's on Tonight

THRILLER

Speed: 5:30 p.m. on AMC. Keanu Reeves, Dennis Hopper. An extortionist bomber rigs a L.A. city bus to explode if its speed drops below 50 mph.

ADVENTURE

Independence Day: 8 p.m. on AMC. Will Smith, Bill Pullman. The aliens are coming and their goal is to invade Earth. Mankind's best weapon is the will to survive.

DOCUMENTARY

Deadliest Catch: 8 p.m. on DSC. When Sig's crane blows a hydraulic line. The Cornelia Marie crew battles a fire as Jake's engine room fills with smoke.

Friday June 26, 2026

SP = Spectrum, C = Cablevision, F = FiOS Movies 🟥 Sports 🟩 New 🟨

Evening	SP	C	F	6:30pm	7:00pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:30pm	10:00pm	10:30pm	11:00pm	11:30pm
2 WCBS	2	2	2	CBS Evening News	Inside Edition	Entertainment Tonight	Sheriff Country: The Gambler (R)		Fire Country: Fresh Start (R)		Boston Blue: Suffer the Children (R)		CBS News 11pm	(11:35) Comics
4 WNBC	4	4	4	NBC Nightly News	(7:15) New York Live	Access Hollywood	America's Got Talent: Auditions 4 (R)				Dateline NBC		News 4 New York at 11	(11:35) Tonight Show
5 WNYW	5	5	5	Politics Unusual	FIFA World Cup Live.	(7:45) 2026 FIFA World Cup: Spain at Uruguay from Guadalajara Stadium in Guadalajara, Mexico. Live.					FIFA World Cup Live.	(10:45) 2026 FIFA World Cup: Belgium at New Zealand. Live.		
7 WABC	7	7	7	ABC World News	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune (R)	Celebrity Jeopardy! All Stars: QUARTERFINAL #1		20/20: Investigative journalists report on various news stories from around the world.				News	(11:35) Kimmel Live (R)
9 WWOR	9	9	9	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	Family Feud (R)	The News on My 9	Politics Unusual	Chicago Fire: We Called Her Jellybean		The 10 O'Clock News	Family Feud (R)	Chicago Fire: You Know Where to Find Me	
11 WPIX	11	11	11	Mets Pre Game Live.	MLB Baseball: Philadelphia Phillies at New York Mets from Citi Field. Live.				Mets Pre Game Live.	MLB Baseball Live.	New York Nightcap	PIX11 News at Ten	New York Nightcap	Seinfeld: The Checks
13 WNET	13	13	13	BBC News America	The PBS News Hour		Firing Line with Margaret Hoover		American Experience: George H.W. Bush, Part 2 (R)			The American	Amanpour and Company	
21 WLIW	21	21	21	(6:00) News	Inspector George Gently: Burning Man			The Brokenwood Mysteries			Astrid: The Arabian Nig		BBC News	The Day
25 WNYE	25	22	25	The Civil	Made In New York Talks			Papa Ray's	Inside Pow	Artists Den Reprise		Short Film	NYU Journ	Cinema
31 WPXN	31	3	531	S.W.A.T.	Pregame	WNBA Basketball				Game Break	WNBA Basketball Live.			
41 WXTV	41	6	41	N Univisi	La rosa de Guadalupe		Tan Cerca de Ti, Nace el		Guardián de mi Vida		Hermanas Un Amo		Noticias	N Univisio
47 WNJU	47	16	12	Noticias	Mundial	Copa Mundial de FIFA 2026: Spain vs Uruguay. Directo.					Mundial	Copa Mundial de FIFA 2026 Directo.		
55 WLNY	55	10	10	Perfect (R)	Last Man	Last Man	News 8pm		48 Hours: Secrets, Lies		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Neighbor.	Neighbor.
A&E	46	46	181	Desert Law	Desert Law (R)		Desert Law (R)		Desert Law (R)		(10:01) Desert Law (R)		Desert Law: Standoff (R)	
AMC	54	43	231	Speed (1994, Action) Keanu Reeves. R			Independence Day (1996, Science Fiction) Will Smith. PG-13 ★★★						Top Gun (1986) PG ★★★	
BBCAM	71	101	189	Law & Ordr	Law & Order: Pride		Law & Order: Bitter Fruit		Law & Order: Rebels		Law & Order: Savages		Law & Order: Jeopardy	
BET	37	54	270	To Be Announced: Program information is currently unavailable.					Belly (1998, Crime) DMX. R ★★					Martin
BRAVO	18	44	185	Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (2018, Adventure) Chris Pratt. ★★★					Fast X (2023, Action) Vin Diesel. PG-13 ★★½					
CNBC	15	24	102	Money	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	78	25	100	(6:00) Lead	Erin Burnett OutFront		Anderson Cooper 360°		The Source with Kaitlan		CNN NewsNight		Laura Coates Live	
COMEDY	45	50	190	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Family Guy	Family Guy
DISC	66	27	120	Dead Catch	Deadliest Catch (R)		Deadliest Catch		(9:01) Last Woodsmen		(10:01) Homestead Rescue: Two Miles High and Dry			
DISNEY	49	31	250	(6:25) Lilo & Stitch (2002, Family) ★★★			Lilo and Stitch 2: Glitch		(9:20) Kiff	(9:45) Kiff	(10:10) Kiff	(10:35) Kiff	Miraculous	Miraculous
E!	24	51	196	Men (R)	Men (R)	Men (R)	Men (R)	Men (R)	Men (R)	Men (R)	Men (R)	Men (R)	Men (R)	Men (R)
ESPN	28	36	70	Sports	NHL Draft: 2026 NHL Draft						SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	29	35	74	The Point	NFL Live		X Games Sacramento 2026: from Cal Expo in Sacramento, Calif.. Live.						NFL Live	
FBN	43	106	117	Bottom	Wall Street	Roundtable	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
FNC	44	26	118	Spc. Rpt.	The Ingraham Angle		Jesse Watters Primetime		Hannity		Gutfeld!		Fox News @ Night	
FOOD	50	97	164	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Food Network's Top 10		Diners	Diners
FREE	38	49	199	Toy Story 3 (2010, Comedy) Tom Hanks. G ★★★★					(8:55) Toy Story 4 (2019, Family) Tom Hanks. G ★★★				The 700 Club (R)	
FS1	400	99	83	(5:00) First	FIFA World Cup Live.		2026 FIFA World Cup: Saudi Arabia at Cape Verde.				FIFA World Cup Live.		FIFA World Cup Live.	
FX	10	40	53	(5:30) Doctor Strange (2016, Action) ★★★			Black Panther (2018, Action) Chadwick Boseman. PG-13 ★★★						Enemy of the State R ★★★	
HALL		191	240	A Very Merry Mix Up (2013) Alicia Witt.			Christmas Secret (2014, Holiday) Bethany Joy Lenz.				We Met in December (2025) Autumn Reeser.			
HGTV	64	98	165	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	My Lottery	Zillow Wild	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters
HIST	40	47	128	UnXplained	The UnXplained (R)		The UnXplained (R)		The UnXplained		(10:03) The UnXplained		(11:05) The UnXplained	
ID	23	171	123	Joe Kenda	Detective with Lt. Kenda		Case Files Texas Ranger		Case Files Texas Ranger		Case Files Texas Ranger		Case Files Texas Ranger	
LIFE	62	45	140	(6:00) NCIS	NCIS: Witness		NCIS: Caught on Tape		NCIS: Pop Life		NCIS: An Eye for Eye		(11:03) NCIS: Bikini Wax	
MeTV	33	33	3	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy	Andy	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Golden	Golden	Burnett	P. Mason
MSG	27	87	78	(6:00) UFA	Team Boxing League: Nashville Smash at Miami Assassins Live.					WC Boxing: Andre Berto vs. Lamont Peterson				Team
MSG Plus	48	88	80	(12:00) FanDuel Racing			The Garden Cup						NHL Hockey Replay.	
MSNOW	14	23	103	Ari Melber	The Weeknight		All in with Chris Hayes		The Briefing Jen Psaki		Lawrence O'Donnell		The 11th Hour with Ali	
MTV	20	53	210	Bang	Old School (2003, Comedy) Luke Wilson. R ★★★				The Longest Yard (2005, Comedy) Adam Sandler. PG-13 ★★½					Old School
NATGEO	65	162	121	Treasures	Lost Treasures (R)		Lost Treasures (R)		Lost Treasures (R)		Lost Treasures (R)		Lost City Machu	
NICK	6	121	252	SpongeBob	Sing (2016, Comedy) Matthew McConaughey. PG ★★★					Friends	Bang	Bang	Big Bang Theory: Prom	
OWN	173	180	145	(6:00) Belle	Belle Collective		Belle Collective		Heart & Hustle: Houston		Heart & Hustle: Houston		Belle Collective	
PARMT	36	56	54	Dutton (R)	Dutton Ranch: Den of Sin		Dutton Ranch (R)		(8:59) Dutton Ranch (R)		(9:58) The Hangover (2009, Comedy) Bradley Cooper.			
SNY	26	60	77	Yeah ...	Yeah ...	Yeah ...	Broadway Boxing: Broadway Boxing 2403				Post Game	Sports	Sports	Sports
SYFY	17	48	180	Secrets PG	Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (2004, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe. ★★★½						Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (2005) PG-13 ★★★½			
TBS	8	39	52	Bang	Bang	Bang	Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire (2024) PG-13				Deep Blue Sea (1999, Thriller) Saffron Burrows. R ★★½			
TCM	82	41	230	The Beast with Five Fingers (1946) ★★½			Out of the Past (1947, Drama) Robert Mitchum. ★★★½				Raw Deal (1948) Dennis O'Keefe. ★★★			Moonrise
TLC	52	28	139	90 Day Fiancé: When Two Worlds (R)			90 Day Fiancé: More to Love: The Ball and Chain				90 Day	90 Day: Last (R)		90 Day (R)
TNT	3	37	51	(5:45) Ocean's Eleven (2001, Crime)			(8:15) Ocean's Twelve (2004, Crime) George Clooney, Brad Pitt. PG-13 ★★½						Ocean's Thirteen (2007)	
TVLAND	85	34	241	Andy	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	(9:20) Loves Raymond		Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens	Queens
USA	16	38	50	House Down	Everything	Everything	WWE Friday Night SmackDown: from O2 Arena in London. Live.						Everything	Everything
VH1	19	52	217	Carmen: A Hip-Hopera (2001) Beyoncé.			Welcome Home, Roscoe Jenkins (2008) PG-13 ★★				Big Fat Liar (2002, Comedy) Frankie Muniz. PG ★★			
WE	59	42	149	(5:30) Trading Places (1983, Comedy) R			Love After Lockup: Dating a Stranger			This is Poly		Love After Lockup: Dating a Stranger		
YES	53	89	76	Pregame	MLB Baseball: New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox from Fenway Park. Live.						Postgame	YanksExtra	Talkin'	Yankees
HBO	511	301	400	(6:45) Superman (2025, Action) David Corenswet. PG-13					Life, Larry	Life Larry	(10:08) Real Time with		Life Larry	Real Time
MAX	531	371	420	The Three Stooges (2012) Sean Hayes.			(7:51) Couples Retreat (2009, Comedy)			(9:45) It's Kind of a Funny Story (2010, Comedy) ★★★				My Voice R
MGM Plus	595		395	(6:00) Starman (1984, Science Fiction)			Project Hail Mary (2026, Drama) Ryan Gosling. PG-13					Afterburn (1992, Drama) Laura Dern. R		
PARSHO	551	321	365	(6:15) Homefront (2013, Action) R ★★★			The Chi: Dead of Winter		The Last Duel (2021, Action) Matt Damon. R ★★★½					Gambler R

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USMNT 'B' TEAM FALLS IN GROUP FINALE, BOSNIA NEXT

PAGES 64-65, 62, 60

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Charles Wenzelberg / NY Post

New champ Mitch unlikely to return

GONE WITH THE WIN

It looks like the longest-tenured Knick won't have a chance for an NBA title repeat. Mitchell Robinson, an unrestricted free agent, is unlikely to return to the Knicks next season, a source told The Post's Stefan Bondy. With owner James Dolan unwilling to go into the second apron, the big man's return has been in doubt. **BATTIFARANO / PAGE 55**

SIX IN THE CITI

METS SKID GROWS TO UGLY HALF DOZEN

PAGES 68-69, 52

SLOPPY YANKS FLOP IN FENWAY

COMMIT FOUR E's IN LOSS TO BOSOX

PAGES 66-67, 52

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